

Bay Area Reporter

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395 NINTH ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

San Francisco's First HIV Transmission Lawsuit Filed

by Dennis Conkin
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The estate of a gay man who confessed on his deathbed to intentionally infecting his lover with HIV has been sued for \$1 million in San Francisco Superior Court.

The lawsuit, announced on May 12 by

attorney Paul Wotman, seeks damages for battery, fraud, conversion, and negligence against the estate of gay businessman Dale S. King, who died of AIDS in 1993 at the age of 55.

Wotman represents Todd Cheshire, 33, King's former lover and business partner. "Mr. King admitted that he deceived my client about his HIV status because he did not want to be alone during the final stages of his illness," Wotman told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

King made the admission to Cheshire in the presence of a mutual friend less than a month before he died, in December 1993.

"Todd came to San Francisco on a dream vacation in 1986 from his home in Kansas. He was 26. He had a friend who had a friend who had a roommate. He was introduced to Dale King, they hit it off and Todd was pretty excited," Wotman said. "He went back to Kansas and after two or three months of working hard and

saving his money, Todd moved to San Francisco to be with King."

When Cheshire went back to Kansas, he was tested for HIV infection, Wotman said.

Cheshire tested negative – and when he told his lover the news, King said that he, too, had been tested for HIV, was also negative, and that no one he had been sexually involved had contracted HIV or AIDS.

Continued on page 3



Photo: Rick Gerhart

Mother's Day Message

Susan Black, who lost a son to AIDS, signs a Mother's Day card to Pete Wilson May 14 in the courtyard between the Opera House and the War Memorial Building. The card asks the governor to remember the children as he prepares his budget. Black and Dorothy Riechling (right), who has also lost a son to AIDS, participated in a small memorial service with the NAMES Project Quilt as a reminder of the mothers who have had children die from AIDS.

There is no joy in Cin City Appeals Court Okays Cincinnati's Anti-Gay Law

by Don Canaan

CINCINNATI (UPI) – On Friday, May 12 the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned a landmark lower court decision that had ruled a Cincinnati anti-gay charter amendment was unconstitutional.

Lawyers for the plaintiffs said they will appeal the decision to the U.S. Supreme Court, perhaps requesting it be merged with an appeal of a similar case

from Colorado that is to be argued before the high court this fall.

The Cincinnati charter amendment was approved by 62 percent of people voting in the November 1993 election. It denies previously mandated discrimination protection for gay, lesbian, or bisexual city residents and prohibits the city from addressing such issues – ever again.

U.S. District Court Judge
Continued on page 00

INSIDE

BarTalk.....	40
Calendar.....	42
Classifieds.....	23
Dykeotomy.....	10
GLAAD.....	16
Letters.....	7
Mr. Marcus.....	44
Obituaries.....	20
Open Forum.....	6
Out There.....	30
Personals.....	46
Queer Watch.....	22
Sports.....	39
Wayne Friday.....	9

Migden Goes To Colorado For Victory Fund

Supé speaks at 'Ground Zero' of U.S. homophobia

by Mary Ann Swisler

San Francisco Supervisor Carole Migden traveled to Colorado Springs on Sunday, May 7 to commend the state's small but defiant gay and lesbian community for resisting the blitzkrieg of right wing political action there, and to assure its beleaguered people that California gay leaders would not abandon them.

Migden took a break before

her official May 24 California Assembly campaign kick-off to deliver a pep talk to Colorado gay activists who have seen their state taken over by conservative so-called christian organizations in the past few years. According to a January 1995 *Nation* magazine article, over 70 such groups are now based in Colorado Springs alone, where Migden spoke, and their effect has been considerable.

Continued on page 10

SFAF Joins the Union

by Dennis Conkin

A tentative agreement of a two-year contract was reached Friday, May 12 between the management of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and SFAF employees, represented by Service Employees International Union, Local 790A.

The contract was approved by a 50-1 vote of bargaining unit members.

Implementation of the contract will be effective retroactive to May 15, following approval by the non-profit agency's board of directors at its Tuesday, May 23 meeting.

"I believe this is a fair and equitable contract," said SFAF director Pat Christen, who acknowledged, "The negotiating process has been a difficult one."

"The bargaining unit has been strongly divided on many of the key issues," she said, "including the issue of union security."

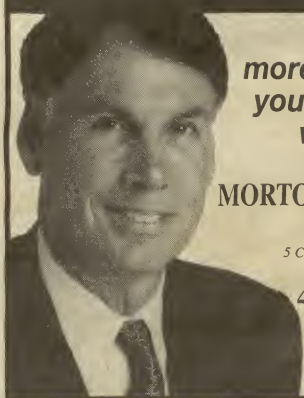
Dues must be paid

A predominant issue of contract dispute was whether non-union members of the bargaining unit would be required to pay dues or affiliation fees to the SEIU local.

"Management has always held essential that current and future employees at the foundation be given a choice about whether or not they pay dues or affiliation fees to the union," Christen said, "and once they have paid dues or fees they retain the choice periodically to revisit that decision."

Under the proposed contract, all current employees are free to
Continued on page 10

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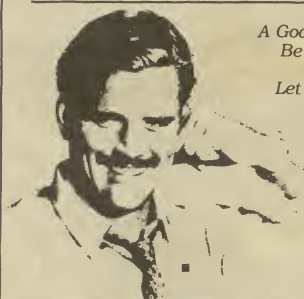
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Freeman Still a Free Man After Surrender

Doctor posts \$75,000 bail; arraignment May 24

by Kent Brandle

Dr. Dean Freeman, charged with 15 criminal counts including attempted murder, in connection with the hatchet attack of local actor Mario Mondelli, is due to be arraigned on the charges at 9 a.m. next Wednesday, May 24. Freeman will appear before Municipal Court Judge Phillip Moscone in Department 10 on the first floor of the of the Hall of Justice.

Freeman, a psychiatrist, turned himself in to his attorney Jim Collins last Thursday, May 11, posted bail of \$75,000, and was released after being processed by San Francisco police and the sheriff's department.

Mondelli suffered multiple stab wounds in the back and on his head in his apartment late on the night of Monday, July 25. Police reports indicate Mondelli told investigators Freeman had offered to

give him a massage, after which the doctor struck him repeatedly and without warning with a camping ax. Freeman told police he acted in self-defense. Police say he had a superficial cut on his left wrist.

Court documents said Mondelli was stabbed ten times, but hospital records show he was stabbed 22 times; a prosecutor asked rhetorically what difference the count made, since the victim had been "turned into a piece of Swiss cheese anyway."

Police reports say Freeman, a San Francisco General Hospital staff psychiatrist, was also Mondelli's lover.

In a brief interview with the *B.A.R.* Mondelli was asked why he thought Freeman would do such a thing. "He had been taking a lot of speed. He was paranoid that I was going to turn him in," Mondelli said. "He saw me as an insignificant person."

Mondelli declined further comment, due to pending civil and criminal litigation. ▼

The Castro stages a benefit for the Tenderloin Priscilla Rolls into Town Saturday

by Dennis Conkin

A gala audience participation drag competition and screening of the Oscar-winning Australian film *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* is scheduled for this Saturday, May 20 at 9 p.m. at the Castro Theater. The event, to raise money for the five-year-old Tenderloin AIDS Resource Center, will also feature door and raffle prizes of travel packages to Sydney, Australia and Honolulu.

Celebrity judges for the drag competition event include Mable Maney, author of the lesbian Nancy Clue mysteries; song siren Pussy Tourette; Elvis "The King" Herselvis; and the irrepressible drag diva Madeline.

Hosted by comedian Joan Jett Blakk, the soiree is a fundraiser for the non-profit AIDS service agency that provides case management and other services to low-income and Tenderloin homeless residents from a storefront in the AIDS-devastated

and impoverished neighborhood.

"The level of need for our clients is greater than the traditional AIDS service user," said TARC director Brian Cross. "Many of our clients live on the street, where they suffer from lesions and night sweats. They lack the services that middle class people have; most haven't seen a doctor in many years."

With an annual budget of \$312,900, Tenderloin AIDS Resource Center provides clients with street-based outreach, HIV case management, one-to-one and group transgender and substance abuse counseling, medical care, and practical support services referrals, as well as housing and meal assistance.

The grassroots agency specializes in serving the special needs of transgendered people, injection drug users and their partners, sex workers, people of color, refugees and immigrants, and other Tenderloin subcultures, including homeless and

Continued on page 11

SF Gays, Lesbians React To FBI Infiltration of ACT UP

by Dennis Conkin

The Justice Department started off this week trying to downplay a *New York Daily News* report that the FBI, under its jurisdiction, spied on New York AIDS activists between 1990 and 1991.

Late Monday, May 15, department spokesperson Carl Stern responded to that morning's *Daily News* article by saying the agency had once feared members of the advocacy group ACT UP would use HIV-infected blood and used condoms in their theatrical demonstrations. Stern also admitted the FBI passed along those concerns to local public officials, but said reports the agency spied on ACT UP were "overstated."

ACT UP/Washington member Steve Michael responded by accusing the government of "using the Federal Bureau of Investigation to infiltrate, undermine, and discredit its most visible critics among AIDS advocates."

San Francisco lesbian and gay and AIDS activists reacted strongly to the revelation. Supervisor Carole Migden

criticized the surveillance and said it was a waste of taxpayer's money.

"In many ways, ACT UP is the conscience of the lesbian and gay movement," she said. "Their purpose has been to expedite treatment and research in order to find a cure."

"They should be heralded, not harassed," Migden said.

San Francisco AIDS activists are this week filing to have FBI files on local AIDS activist groups released under the Freedom of Information Act.

"I'm not surprised," said longtime AIDS activist Peggy Sue. "Like they haven't done it all along anyway. I would like to know if the San Francisco Police Officers Association was involved. Why don't you ask them?"

A San Francisco police spokeswoman declined comment about whether the agency was aware of similar surveillance on local AIDS activist groups.

Bloody rumors

San Francisco became the focus of international media attention in 1990 while prepar-

ing for the Sixth International Conference on AIDS after comments by SFPD Officer Gary Delagnes, a police union official. Responding to a rumors that AIDS activists might throw jars of HIV-infected blood at officers during a protest, Delagnes told a reporter he couldn't say he would shoot such protesters — but also couldn't say he wouldn't.

Organizers of the conference have always wondered where the untrue rumor — antithetical to the group's aims — began.

The rumor and Delagnes's response created a media frenzy and forced AIDS activists to use much of their time dispelling the hysteria sparked by the rumor, instead of focusing on the conference, said San Francisco AIDS activist Laura Thomas.

According to the *Daily News*, the FBI has a 199-page file on ACT UP, plus similar — albeit less lengthy — files on Gay Men's Health Crisis, Senior Action in a Gay Environment, and the Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights in New York. Stern did not attempt to explain the agency's interest in those groups. ▼

Hello, Dolly! Dancers To Do Under One Roof Benefit Sunday

Channing to introduce dancers, present Diamond Award

by Kent Bradley

Veteran trouper Carole Channing – as tireless and fearless when championing gay rights as when she is on stage – will introduce dancers from *Hello Dolly!* and present her now famous "Diamond Award" at a gala benefit here the night of Sunday, May 21.

The award has gone, in times past, to such people as Jackie Kennedy and Pat Nixon.

Fifty percent of the door money from the "One Night in Heaven" event at the Pleasure Dome, located at 177 Townsend Street (at Third) in the city, will be donated to Under One Roof, the Market Street shop that raises money for over 60 area AIDS organizations.

John Bantay, who grew up in San Francisco, graduated from St. Ignatius College

Prep School in the Sunset District, and subsequently made it big as a dancer and chorus person on Broadway, told the *Bay Area Reporter* he will be part of the dance company from New York City performing in a sexy number reminiscent of the Chippendale Show at the event. Bantay will be one of 18 (mostly male) dancers on stage who will strip down to their G-strings, he said.

The indefatigable Channing is "absolutely pro-gay," Bantay said. She was a grand marshal of the Christopher Street West gay pride celebration in Los Angeles last year, and in addition to eight *Hello, Dolly!* shows each week, she does countless benefits for gay causes. (*Dolly* continues in San Francisco at the Orpheum through May 28. Since it first opened in 1964 Channing has played over

4,500 performances.)

Dennis Crowley, the show's publicist, said *Hello, Dolly!* has won ten Tony Awards, the most ever in Broadway's history.

Channing has been "a tireless, fearless, gay rights activist," Crowley told the *B.A.R.* After she opened in Denver last July and appeared at a gay rights rally, she received several pieces of hate mail as a result; that made her that much more determined to aid the cause, he said.

Doors for "One Night in Heaven" open at 8 p.m., and Channing will present the Diamond Award at about 11 p.m., organizers said. Admission is \$7 at the door. ▼

For more information, call the event line at (415) 985-5256.



SF's own John Bantay.

Lawsuit

Continued from page 1

The couple agreed to be strictly monogamous and practice safe sex, Wotman said.

When Cheshire, an illustrator, returned to San Francisco in 1986, he began working as the office manager for King's company, Budget Signs of Oakland.

Record of abuse

The couple agreed that the money Cheshire made would be invested in King's house at 99 Prospect Street in San Francisco – and that the couple would

share everything.

In 1989, King told Cheshire that his ex-lover was dying of AIDS and was tested again for HIV. King was positive.

Cheshire was retested and discovered he, too, had contracted HIV.

Wotman said that even though Cheshire had been monogamous and had initially tested negative, for a time King insisted that Cheshire could have infected him.

But the truth was far more devastating, Wotman said, and while he kept it secret, King had actually known it all along.

And, according to Wotman,

Cheshire's diary of the couple's relationship indicates the extent of King's deceit.

Several diary entries record Cheshire's innocent realization that King was "being sneaky" and not keeping the couple's safe sex agreement with him.

"King would start out wearing a condom when they had sex, but Todd would discover afterward that King had taken the condom off during the sex act," Wotman said.

And, Wotman said, while Cheshire was monogamous with his lover, King was covertly "tricking out" and having multiple sex partners while the cou-

ple lived together as a family unit.

Deathbed promises broken

After his deceptions became known, King made promises to provide financially for Cheshire upon his death, and then failed to keep those promises in the trust he established, Wotman said.

"The least of the promises was that my client would be able to remain in the house until he died. That wasn't kept either," Wotman said. "I think Todd was betrayed all the way around."

Cheshire's complaint is

against the trust that King established before his death. The trustee of the estate is King's ex-wife, and a major beneficiary is King's daughter.

"This is a palimony case. It recalls the suit filed against Rock Hudson's estate by his former lover, Marc Christiansen," Wotman said. "Although Christiansen never tested HIV positive, he received a multi-million judgment. My client is seeking damages for the premature shortening of his life."

No trial date has been set pending arbitration of the case. ▼

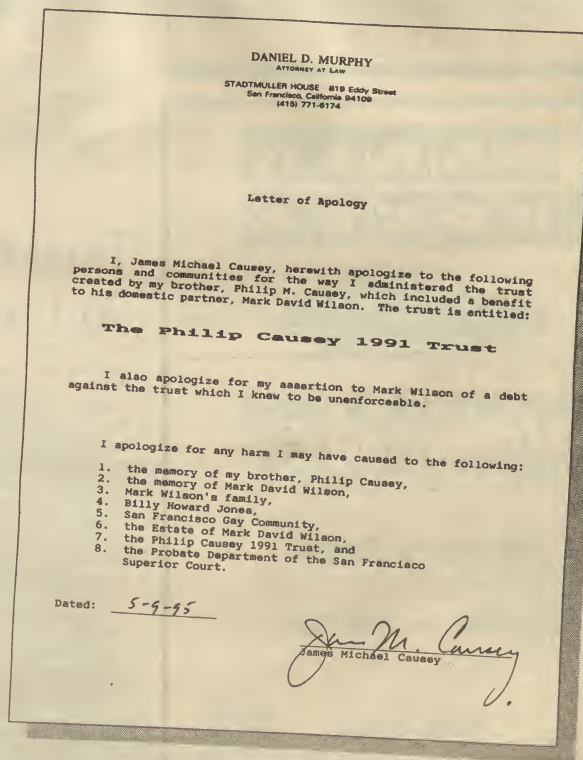
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An Apology to the Entire San Francisco Gay Community

Billy Howard Jones and his attorneys, Daniel D. Murphy and Amanda L. Ebey, wish to thank the following persons and organizations for their time and efforts to enable the estate to pursue this lawsuit. Some of these efforts were provided for no charge, others provided at low cost, but all were generously given in order to prosecute this claim against the defendant James Causey of Plymouth, Indiana.

The family of Mark David Wilson
AIDS Legal Referral Panel of San Francisco
Lois Heaney of the National Jury Project
William R. Horstman, Ph.D.
Stephen L. Becker, M.D. of the Potrero Hill Medical Group
Richard J. Devine, Ph.D. of the offices of Devine & Gong, Inc.
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Laura Goodman
John Kindle
Marsha Lieberman
Steven Kohn
Edie Greenough, (soon to be J.D.)
William W. Halprin, Certified Public Accountant
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and, the many other friends and coworkers of Mark David Wilson



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COMMUNITY NEWS



Photo: Rick Gerharter

Petal Pusher

Cheerful volunteer Eric Larson helps two customers make a choice May 13 at Orchidmania, an annual benefit plant sale for various AIDS organizations in Central America, Thailand and San Francisco. Over 8,000 plants were up for grabs during the two-day event at the Japan Center, and nearly \$40,000 was raised.

Best Defense Video Crew Due in SF June 2-7

by Kent Brandley

How's your ability to defend yourself?

If you're a little lame in that department, you may be interested to know some serious help is on the way.

The gay and lesbian production crew for *The Best Defense* video series will be in San Francisco June 2-7, a spokesperson for the Anchorage, Alaska-based group told the *B.A.R.*

The series — comprised of three instructional videos and a documentary, according to Morgan Grey — "is being made specifically for the gay and lesbian community and features eight of the world's leading martial arts/self defense instructors."

All of whom happen to be lesbian or gay.

The project was conceived and developed by Alaska resident Darl Schaaff, a martial arts and self-defense expert, and winner of three gold medals in the 1994 Gay Games. Schaaff, as producer of the project, has hired "some of the best martial artists in the world" as instructors, Grey said. Among them are Cristina Biaggi of New York, David Lebovitz and Allen Wood of California, Wendi Dragonfire and Lydia Zijdel of the Netherlands, and others.

Much of the taping will take place at the annual meeting and workshops sponsored by the International Association of Gay and Lesbian

Martial Artists scheduled for the same time. The crew has already been in Seattle and final editing will take place in June, Grey said; the tapes are scheduled for release in late August.

In addition to teaching the basics of self-defense, the video series will include interviews with victims, counselors, and police, Grey said.

The video team will hit the streets June 5 through June 7 to talk to people about violence and the rise of hate crimes, Grey said. "Much of the footage is being used for a 30-minute documentary also in production."

A public self-defense class will be offered on Saturday, June 3 at the Central YMCA, located at 220 Golden Gate Avenue in the city; the time has not yet been announced. Those attending the class will be included in the video if they wish. ▼

If you would like to be involved, or for more information, call *The Best Defense* at 1-800-747-2115.

Dual Cause for Celebration At Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

by Kent Brandley

With dual cause for celebration, Congregation Sha'ar Zahav intends to mark the congregation's 18th birthday and Rabbi Yoel Kahn's tenth anniversary as rabbi this weekend, May 19-21.

Rabbi Kahn was only 26 when he arrived in San Francisco, having been recently ordained at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in New York. Prior to that, Kahn was a Phi Beta Kappa honors student at the University of California, Berkeley.

Rabbi Kahn's written works have since been published widely, and he has made frequent presentations on such subjects as *The Sacred Duty of Caring for the Self and Who and What is Family: Towards Diversity in our Congregations and Communities*.

Kahn explained Sha'ar Zahav is "a progressive inclu-

sive community where people who had become fragmented make themselves, and find themselves, whole." The synagogue was founded as a gay congregation, Kahn told the *B.A.R.*, and continues a special outreach to gay men and lesbians, their families and friends, but everyone is welcome.

This weekend's celebration begins Friday night with a special commemorative service at Congregation Emanu-El, located at Lake Street and Arguello Boulevard at 7:30 p.m. A larger facility was chosen due to the anticipated crowd.

The celebration will be filled with original music arranged for the occasion and will honor Sha'ar Zahav supporters including *Jewish Bulletin* publisher Mac Klein; Rabbi Nancy Flam; and Jerry Rosenstein, a long-time community leader.

Festivities continue Saturday

night at the Delancy Street Foundation's Town Hall, located at 600 The Embarcadero at Brannan Street, at 8 p.m. The dance party includes an appearance by CSZ's Klezmer Band. A Klezmer band, Kahn explained, is a group of East European Jewish secular folk musicians.

Sunday, May 21, a family picnic at Douglass Park (located at 26th and Douglass streets) from noon until 3 p.m. celebrates CSZ's religious school, Kadimah, and all of the children of CSZ.

Tiela Chalmers is president of the synagogue. ▼

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav (Congregation of the Golden Gate) is located in the Upper Market District of San Francisco at 220 Danvers at Caselli, SF CA 94114. Phone (415) 861-6932 for more information.

Gay and Lesbian Veterans and Service Members Honored 'Wall of Restitution' Personal Memorial Bricks Encouraged

by Kent Brantley

"This will be an event to chronicle the noble history of lesbian and gay service members and their ongoing contribution to the freedom of all Americans." — Keith Meinhold

A "Wall of Restitution" honoring gay, lesbian, and bisexual veterans and active duty personnel will be unveiled at a 7 p.m. reception on Armed Forces Day, this Saturday, May 20. The unveiling will precede the opening night performance of the new Tale Spinners Theater play *A Credit to Her Country* — voices of lesbians in the military, written by Lee Jenkins, at Centro del Pueblo, located at 474 Valencia Street (at 16th) in the city.

Lee Miller, president of the Tale Spinners board of directors, Army veteran, and executive director of the Wall of Restitution Project, said the project is par-

ticularly poignant in this 50th Anniversary year of the end of World War II — and "while we still struggle to achieve basic civil rights in the military."

Miller told the *B.A.R.* the first "brick" in the Wall of Restitution will be placed by Henri Le Léu, World War I gay vet, and oldest member of San Francisco's Alexander Hamilton American Legion Post. After that, Miller invites the community to participate.

Service members or veterans can adhere "bricks" — made of 3" x 5" paper, card stock, fabric, photographic paper, or other flat surface material — to the wall at each performance of *A Credit to Her Country*. Friends and family of deceased gay or lesbian veterans may also apply a brick in memorial.

Expression on the wall may be conspicuous or anonymous, creative, or straightforward, in words and/or in

Continued on page 17



Photo: Rick Gerhart

Where credit is due: (left to right) Lee Miller, *About Face* author and May 20 guest of honor James Kennedy and Lee Jenkins.

Queers' Info Superhighway Entrance Ramp Approaching Activists to display an incredible tool Saturday

by Kent Brantley

A community forum entitled "Queer Activists Online" will be held this Saturday, May 20 to teach gay and lesbian people how to get on the Internet and use its powerful tools.

Members of the QueerLinks

Project of San Francisco's Digital Queers — the forum's sponsors — say, "Activism is all about accessing and using information, gathering resources and mobilizing people, and the Internet makes this work easier than ever before." Toward that end, they'll be emphasizing the

basic hows and whys of getting connected to that famous information superhighway.

The forum will be held from 1 to 5 p.m. at Golden Gate University, located at 536 Mission Street (between 1st and 2nd streets) in the city. The forum will meet in Auditorium

2C on the second floor, organizers said.

A suggested donation of \$5 per person will be collected to help cover costs. However, organizers stressed, no one will be turned away due to lack of money.

Digital Queers is a complete-

ly volunteer organization, and San Francisco is the newest local chapter. ▼

For more information call the Digital Queers office at (415) 252-6282. Advance reservations are encouraged.



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CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Dianne Aaronson, John Antalek, Rene M. Astudillo, Noreen C. Barnes, Erin Blackwell, John Blanco, Angela Bocage, Kate Bornstein, Michael C. Botkin, Nancy Boutillier, Philip Campbell, Jim Coughenour, M.R. Covino, Tim Farrell, Michael Flanagan, Mark Freeman, Anthony N. Hauser, Pete Hodgdon, Chad Jones, John F. Karr, Jeffery Kennedy, I.A. Kisselman, Karl Bruce Knapper, Ron Lazar, Elliott Linwood, Jason Lorber, Daniel Mangin, Mr. Marcus, Daniel Medynski, Jerry Metzker, Karen Ocam, Deborah Peifer, Jeremy Quittner, Mary Richards, Bob Roehr, John Ross, Doug Seto, Marv. Shaw, Mary Ann Swisler, Rick Thoman, Paul Thomason, Susanna Tmka, Dick Walters, Lauren Ward

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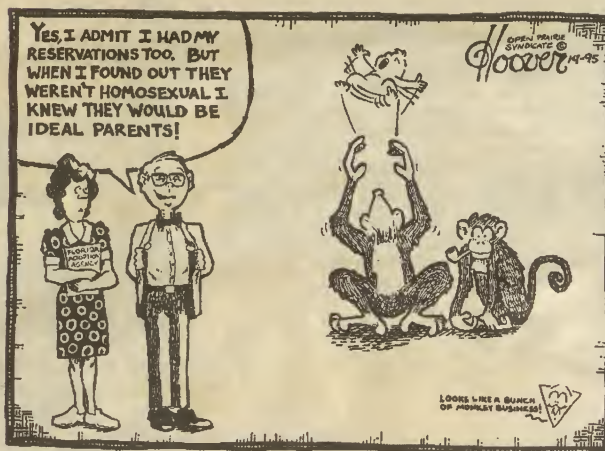
OPEN FORUM

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CARTOON



EDITORIAL

Bites and Pieces

Ever since the Oklahoma bombing, the left and right sides of America's political spectrum have been interlocking on each others' historic territory: lately we've seen some of the brightest liberal minds in the country (Morris Dees of the Southern Poverty Law Center, for one) describing federal law enforcement agents as good and honorable people, while the right is calling those same agents thugs and Nazis and demanding unfettered free speech. This was unthinkable not so long ago; Abbie Hoffman must be rolling in his grave.

It remains to be seen whether the National Rifle Association will stand behind ACT UP in its outrage over new revelations that it was spied upon by the FBI's, er, thugs and Nazis. Or whether the members of the right who fancy themselves free speech advocates because they support the broadcasting of hate speech (and/or are supported by it) will support those activists' right to speak and protest as guaranteed by the constitution. Don't bet on it.

Frankly, although we agree with Supervisor Migden that ACT UP deserves to be heralded rather than harassed, we also believe the infiltration was inevitable. Only the most politically naive could have thought the feds weren't at ACT UP meetings — at least, at the meetings of ACT UP chapters that truly accomplished things — so the confirmation hasn't changed our view of our government appreciably.

We urge all who have been penetrated by federal agents to accept the inherent flattery: we would never want to join a political action group that the government didn't want to spy on. Whatever would be the point?

We wonder if the FBI is bothering to spy on our large national gay groups. Again we say, whatever would be the point? Lately we've heard from our spies that a certain ineffectual Angry Lesbian is slated for the top spot at the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund. We hope not.

This is no personal vendetta against the Angry Lesbian (whom we have found to be not at all angry, but in possession of a surprisingly sunny disposition when we have met her) or

against the Victory Fund. It is, however, a clarion call to the large national groups that they need to stop this incestuous inbreeding before someone gets hurt. The lifeblood of those groups has gotten so thin by now it's no wonder we're getting bruised all the time.

Of course, it isn't only the fault of the groups: the members of the community who ought to be replenishing their ranks are, for some reason, not doing so. The far right is restocking itself like gangbusters, but a fear of public involvement appears to be paralyzing our side. (No wonder fundies refuse to believe we comprise more than one percent of the population; to judge from our national groups the entire lesbian and gay community might well consist of a few dozen people.)

We need more people to step forward and become active, both in gay rights — we *still* like the term "gay liberation" better — groups, and in politics. If you have the time, now is the time.

In the meanwhile, we urge the Victory Fund to carefully consider whether they want to pay for all the additional baggage the Angry Lesbian will carry into the job. If she is really the best homosexual candidate to apply, perhaps it's time the national groups looked into hiring straight people. Whatever someone does in bed should not automatically disqualify a candidate (even one who engages in heterosexuality), particularly if the candidate is capable of moving the movement. We'd rather have a competent straight behind the wheel than an inept Angry Lesbian any day.

As we said, this isn't a personal attack: it's a recognition that the time to take such matters seriously is upon us, if the recent decision about Cincinnati's anti-gay ballot measure handed down by the U.S. Court of Appeals (see story, page one) is any indication. The parallels between that ruling and Jim Crow laws and early Nazi legislation is obvious — so obvious, in fact, it's being pooh-poohed by the right wing. Don't be reassured by complacency. Despite what the Republicans have always maintained, their pooh-pooh stinks to high heaven. ▼

GUEST OPINION

Hate Disguised as Justice

by Crystal H. Weston
Thurgood Marshall Civil Rights Fellow
Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights

I am incredulous that the Virginia Supreme Court denied Sharon Bottoms custody of her own son because she is a lesbian. I could have sworn that the U.S. Supreme Court has already held that the potential for the stigmatization of a child because of who her parents are is not a good enough reason to deny that parent custody.

Other rationale for taking Tyler away from his mother, but that has received less attention from the press, includes a concern about a phenomenon not unknown to young mothers — Sharon's poverty. The court also expressed concern about the fact that Sharon's mother has "more than [a] typical grandmother relationship with the child," because she babysits him frequently. Again, this phenomenon is also very common among young underemployed mothers.

Further, the court is convinced that Sharon's interest in asserting her rights to be a lesbian mother overrides her interest in doing what is best for Tyler. This smacks of the right-wing rhetoric of queers wanting "special rights." Where is it written that Sharon's desire to achieve the best interests of Tyler and her desire to exercise her rights to lesbian motherhood are mutually exclusive? Since it is probably written nowhere, I am convinced that most of this so-called rationale is pretext, i.e., make-believe reasons for the real reason the court denied Sharon custody, and that reason being that she is a lesbian.

Who ever told heterosexuals that they are the only ones entitled to the children they produce? Who has told heterosexuals that they are the only ones eligible for parenthood? And why do heterosexuals continue to sing the same lame song about sexual identity being private and relatively insignificant, when it has, can, and will continue to be used to deny queers their children, their families, their jobs, their homes, their spirit, their physical safety, in short their very right to humanity?

With all the hoopla about family values, focusing on families, and strengthening families, the minute lesbian and gay couples attempt to create one, say, by having children — the children are snatched away; or try to get legally married — we are told that our relationships are not equal to heterosexual unions and, thus, not entitled to the marital privilege; or the second we attempt to express our affection publicly, we become, and often are, targets for murder or at least a savage beating.

What kills me is that while heterosexuals simultaneously stereotype queers as sexual predators and unstable in relationships, they either create barriers or stand passively by as every and any attempt we make to build family and community is undermined, criminalized, and made damn near impossible.

The Bottoms decision is very important. And I'm outraged that yet another good parent is being denied the right to her own child, while abusive, incestuous, and otherwise dysfunctional patriarchal heterosexual family structures thrive and receive full backing from the State. If most people recognize that they hail from these dysfunctional families — specifically, dysfunctional families with heterosexual parents — where is the proof that that model is superior to lesbian families? To gay families? Or to single-person families?

And one more thing, although Sharon's legal team has decided to petition the Virginia State Supreme Court for a re-hearing and is generally committed to this battle, I'll bet that there will be no outcry from anyone other than queer rights organizations, like the National Center for Lesbian Rights, or Lambda, and the ACLU attorney who represented her. There will likely be no outcry from the other chain-store public interest legal organizations, either. Queers will cry; hets will say "What a pity;" and life on the collective left will continue on its narrow little way. ▼

LETTERS

A noble soul

The community is a little poorer today for more than one reason. There has slipped quietly from our presence a noble soul, a fighter, organizer, leader, and friend. I say friend because as long as I have lived in San Francisco I have never heard ill words spoken of John Teamer. Now that he is dead "ill words" are not what disturb me, but "no words," no words by the gay media. After he has done so much for the community, especially in AIDS work, why would his passing have such little note?

We the observant gay black men of San Francisco are appalled that a universally effective leader such as John Teamer could receive such little respect. Is familiarity contempt after all, or is this merely another foolish oversight?

Bill Martin
Dewitt Hoard
San Francisco

[Editor's note: Mr. Teamer's obituary appeared in the January 5 Bay Area Reporter. We agree his death was a great loss to the community.]

0-0-0-Oklahoma

Thank you for your recent editorial on the bombing in Oklahoma City.

I hope many people read your editorials and start thinking about them, because they illuminate interconnections linking events, facts and situations. Often these interconnections are not obvious, so it is up to us to figure them out. Your recent editorial "Fundamental(ist) Problems in Oklahoma" is a brilliant example of political commentary.

You are truly speaking for all of us when you remind us that "As gay bashing victims, women seeking abortions, and 'Arab-looking' and other people of color know, domestic terrorism has been practiced in this country for some time." These are daily facts of our lives.

When I declared in this paper (*Advertisement*, p. 18) on 4/13/95 - six days before the bombing - that "terrorism is the wave of the future," I was not only predicting the future but describing our current experience and our past. Over the years, I have been attacked four times on the street, once nearly murdered in my own home by a homicidal psychotic, and nearly gunned down at work on July 1, 1993 on the 34th floor at 101 California St.

I pray that we all can help President Clinton to understand more fully this interconnectedness. Clinton, the Democrats, Republicans, and all responsible, decent citizens need to stand up against the "increasingly violent right wing rhetoric spilling across the airwaves and the halls of the nation's capital" (Mike Salinas, *B.A.R.*, 4/27/95, p. 6) before the hatemongers kill or incite others to kill more babies and innocents.

The times are growing short because Bosnia is really not that far away in time and space; we need courageous leaders, not pork-belly, self-centered politicians whose only care is re-election and personal power. Clinton and others are genuine and good-hearted human beings. They'd better learn fast, and we all had better learn fast many ways to be better citizens; informative *B.A.R.* editorials help this cause greatly.

When asked recently, Billy Graham himself admitted he had no answer to families in Oklahoma City as to why God allowed such things to happen to innocent children. Well, I do have answers - several answers. Why is it we always like to blame God when the going gets rough, but scarcely ever even think about God in the meantime? And, too, God is always such a convenient scapegoat... Well, God doesn't want horror like this, but when folks turn from God, what can poor God do? If you truly love someone, you must set them free - free to fail, make mistakes, yet figure out their own way. When folks turn from God, the going can get very, very rough (always has and always will). We must learn how to love one another. Some lessons in life are exceedingly tough, as the recent bombing proves. We also need to learn to listen. The hatemongers, the militias, the murderous fascists, the lunatic left-wing Unabombers - they are all trying to make themselves heard, and we all had better develop more effective means of listening and start more effective lines of communications so that hopefully people will start talking to (and not at) each other and listening to each other and stop killing innocent babies. These deaths are not God's fault but our own many collective faults, and the specific fault of a few planners and perpetrators.

Robert James Carron
San Francisco

Wilde anniversary

On May 25, 1995 it will be 100 years since the conviction of Oscar Wilde. We have made great progress toward gay, lesbian and bisexual rights,

yet many of the injustices that existed in 1895 are still with us. In many states we do not have equal rights and there are those in the U.S. Congress that threaten to restrict those we do have. Artists like Wilde then and Ron Athey, Robert Mapplethorpe and many others today have their work attacked.

England has legalized some gay relations but has the Clause 28 which treats such citizens as second-class ones. Gay people are taunted in the halls of Congress, on talk shows, bashed and even murdered without regard. People should have the right to be open to be themselves without fear or oppression.

I urge all to work for equal rights in all areas including equal employment, tax laws, civil rights and marriage to offer everyone the same rights that Oscar Wilde did not have when he was sent to prison so long ago.

Bill Kaiser
The Purple Circuit
Los Angeles, CA

Prophetic words

I just read Ozzie Santiago's letter on dating in the nineties (May 4), and I couldn't agree more.

I am a gay man living in San Francisco and am HIV negative. Unfortunately, a great number of people my age (29) or under, or even over, are acting as though we are living in 1979. It is all too easy and seductive to lie back and close your eyes and believe a guy when he says "I'm negative." And it's even easier - and the height of hypocrisy - to turn your back on someone who is straightforward and honest and tells you "I'm positive."

I mean, think about it, idiots. What is worse - making love to someone safely after he has been vulnerable and sincere enough to tell you his diagnosis, or making love to someone who has told you he is negative and is damn probably lying through his teeth? Gay men say they crave honesty but when the dice are rolled it turns out that what they really like is a good old-fashioned mindfuck.

Face it. One in two men in this city is HIV-positive. That's fact, OK? Anyone who says otherwise is living in Disneyland.

Larry Kramer wrote in March 1983 the following words: "Our continued existence as gay men upon the face of this earth is at stake. Unless we fight for our lives, we shall die."

When he wrote those words a mere 418 people in the United States had died. That was 12 years ago. The words are even truer today. In fact, their truth is so real it is frightening how prophetic they were.

And we continue to fuck, and die, and fuck, and die, and fuck, and die.

Frank Martinez Lester
San Francisco

The devil incarnate

Re the [April 27 Bay Area Reporter Models/Escort] ad "GOD IS DEAD!"

I feel that it is disgusting that you would allow this ad to appear in your newspaper. It is sacrilegious to say the least.

To think that your staff would allow someone who looks like the Devil Himself to make money off his tricks is insulting to your readers who are Christian. It makes me feel like puking.

I feel that you should withdraw this ad and give your readers a public apology in your next newspaper.

Scotty Ogilvie
San Francisco

[Gee, Scotty, America's freedom of religion is also freedom from religion. That means yours, as well as the ones you don't follow. The day we have to apologize because advertisers don't subscribe to your particular set of superstitions is the day we move to Maine and start selling pen wipers and fudge by the side of the highway.]

Most readers know that simply not responding - rather than demanding arbitrary censorship - is the best way to express their disapproval of an ad, whether for a model or anything else. We suggest you follow their lead, and if any ad makes you feel like puking, don't buy the services it offers.]

The tradition of youthful sexuality

In response to the letter "Similar but different" by Burton Weiss: I am a firm believer that, when you have an opinion, honesty is the best policy; and that ignorance is the enemy of all humankind. As a gay man who became sexually active at the age of 12, I am growing tired of hearing ignorant or dishonest gay men deny the traditional place of youthful sexuality in the gay community. Weiss reacts sharply at the suggestion that a love affair

Continued on page 8

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LETTERS

Letters

Continued from page 7

between a priest and a ten-year-old is similar to one between a priest and another man. One he calls "consensual sex," as if he were applying for a job as a forensic psychiatrist.

What Weiss calls "paedophilia" was known to Plato as boy-love, the most exalted form of love. It was defended by Jeremy Bentham, who used the Greek-derived term pederasty, meaning, explicitly, boy-love, in the first English-language treatise in defense of homosexuality.

To Walt Whitman, lover of numerous young teens, it was known as the "love of comrades."

To Oscar Wilde, who today would be registered with the state as a "sex offender," it was "The love that dare not speak its name... such a great affection of an elder for a younger man as there was between David and Jonathan... that deep, spiritual affection that is as pure as it is perfect."

If you want to read about men enamored of ten-year-olds, pick up a copy of the *Orton Diaries*. If you want to see what forensic psychiatrists call a "juvenile sex offender" (hundreds of these are locked up around the U.S.) read Edmund White's *A Boy's Own Story*. If you want to see how far all this is from gay life, read about twelve-year-old Harvey Milk at the Met in *The Mayor of Castro Street*. Certainly you won't find any of this in that gay classic *Death In Venice*!

My point is this: To deny the traditional place of man/boy love in the gay community is to deny the traditional place of the gay community in the greater society. Honest gay historians know that man/boy love has been a long tradition in the Church, balancing the stale orthodoxy with a humanity which keeps the Church vital to its followers.

Gay scouts know the same is true for the BSA. More important, in many cases, the denial is also a lie, and the worst kind: a deadly lie motivated by greed and self-interest. How many men must receive multiple life sentences for oral sex (as Robert Butler has in Nevada), before gays refuse to be baited by dishonest politicians like Jesse Helms? How many tea-room queens or nude bathers must be registered and taste the vigilantism faced by so many registered boy-lovers, before registration becomes a gay issue again?

The blanket denials of our lesbian and gay politicians are so transparent, a Kansas housewife can see through them on a misadjusted TV from across the room. They cost our credibility, and reinforce rather than allay the fears of those who should be our allies. Alan Bell and Martin Weinberg found in 1978 that 25 percent of their large Bay Area sample of white gay males had had partners under 16 when they were themselves over 21. How do we explain this fact?

Thomas Crocker
San Francisco

N.Y.P.D. queer

Recently while visiting friends in San Francisco, I had the good fortune to pick up a copy of the *Bay Area Reporter*. I was impressed with your magazine's commitment to the community - and its positive portrayals of the gay experience.

With that in mind, I feel it is my obligation to call to your readers' attention the positive gay role-model that TV's "N.Y.P.D. Blue" has brought to prime time this season. The producers have proved that they really are a "cutting edge" police drama by adding an openly gay receptionist to the show's gritty Manhattan squad room. They are to be congratulated for having the courage to go beyond stereotypes and to create a character the Queer Community can be proud of. It's about time!

The new gay character is open about his sexual orientation and makes no apologies about it to anyone, including the gruff and vaguely homophobic police detective played by Dennis Franz. How refreshing! He is not only dignified and caring but also damn good at his job.

"N.Y.P.D. Blue" has once again proved that stereotypes are meant to be broken. I urge all of your readers to watch the show, and to let ABC know that we support their efforts in portraying a gay character in a healthy and realistic light. Write your comments to Steven Bochco Productions, 10201 W. Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, CA, 90035.

Brad Foster
West Hollywood, CA

"Gilligan's Island" flap

[The following was sent to Rick Lenat, Caltrain account supervisor at Jamison Cawdrey Benjamin:]

I am writing regarding a radio spot for Caltrain that I heard on KKSF (103.7 FM) this morning

during the 5:30 a.m. newscast. KKSF referred me to you as the Caltrain account supervisor.

The spot depicts two Caltrain commuters discussing their remembrances of characters on the popular television series *Gilligan's Island*. Their dialogue concludes with an exchange designed to give the impression that "Gilligan" and "The Skipper" were engaging in homosexual relations in the "small hut" they shared, and that such an act "might be mutiny."

As an openly gay resident of San Francisco, I was dismayed at the derogatory context in which this advertisement casts same-sex relationships. The spot uses not-too-subtle innuendo to drive home the point that such a relationship would be considered unsavory, at best, and the use of the term "mutiny" carries unfortunate overtones of punishment and prosecution. Further, in an age where we are losing thousands of our best American minds and talents to AIDS, jokes and derogatory comments regarding homosexual people should never be considered appropriate.

When I brought my concerns regarding the *Gilligan's Island* spot to the attention of Steve Feinstein, Program Director at KKSF, Mr. Feinstein agreed with me that the dialogue could be construed as derogatory toward gay people, and indicated to me that he would pull the spot from further airplay on KKSF.

Mr. Feinstein also brought to my attention another advertisement in the same Caltrain series. In that spot, the dialogue between the commuters portrays a potential "same-sex" attraction in an equally positive light as it depicts heterosexual attraction. If your intention is to give "cultural equivalence" to lesbian and gay relationships in the context of your advertising dialogue, I applaud your effort in this second spot and hope that you will consider retooling the *Gilligan's Island* advertisement to reflect a similar healthy, non-derogatory context toward same-sex relationships.

Joseph Smith
San Francisco

Noise pollution at the gym #1

[The following was sent to 24 Hour Nautilus:]

I am concerned about the choice of radio stations played at the 24 Hour Nautilus Club on Sutter Street where I work out. When I joined in 1986 and I signed the agreement, one of the rules was that I wouldn't use abusive or obscene language. The radio station KMEI has not only obscene language in the music it plays but also disc jockeys who make homophobic slurs.

Several months ago, I heard a KMEI disc jockey say, "If one of you homos touches me I'm going to kill you." When I asked at the front desk about a change of station I was told there is no policy about what is played; whoever is there makes the choice for the moment, and it may change throughout the day depending upon who is working. They changed the station which had been going constantly for several weeks.

Recently someone has been selecting KMEI again on a regular basis. I need to know if 24 Hour Nautilus will continue to play a station that singles out a segment of society for mockery and threats. On April 3rd, the disc jockey dialed a gay community events recording phone number and made derisive comments while the taped schedule of events message was played over the air. He ended by saying "I don't like fairies." This kind of auditory pollution not only distracts me during my workouts but causes stress and lowers the quality of life.

There needs to be a policy about playing the radio at the club. The broadcasting should enhance members' workouts or at least be inoffensive. It shouldn't be harmful and distracting, and if a reasonable policy can't be adopted concerning what to play, then no radio should be played.

I also don't think 24 Hour Nautilus should advertise on KMEI because it is bigoted, inflammatory, inciting, obscene, and backward.

Larry Schmidt
Oakland, CA

Noise pollution at the gym #2

Nothing shouts "I've got a tiny dick!" more than the man who refuses to undress at the gym.

Saul Sherman
San Francisco

Republican Wit

Now that the Republicans control Congress, they have become so confident that some of their members, particularly in the House, have apparently been designated to toss off anti-gay slurs whenever the chance presents itself.

No sooner had brother-of-Candace Speaker Newt Gingrich taken his seat, than one of his colleagues,

nightclub and celebrity hangout, on May 24, 5:30-7 p.m., with "donations" ranging from the minimum of \$75 to the maximum of \$1,000. Jim Hormel, Bob Ross, Cris Arguedas, and Mark Leno are among the event sponsors. Call (415) 864-6113 for more information.

Board President Kevin Shelley announced this week that he will run next March for John Burton's Assembly seat. Both Migden and Shelley are already being called the favorites in their respective races.

And what about that recurring rumor that former Mayor Art Agnos is seriously considering a fight against John Burton for retiring state Senator Milton Marks's seat? All of these "musical chairs" games hinge, of course, on what Willie Brown decides to do about his political future.

Incidentally, Migden picked up one of those endorsement quotes that other politicians only dream about when Senator Dianne Feinstein said (in her endorsement), "Carole Migden was the best finance chair San Francisco has ever seen."

In Utah, male prostitute Richard Gutierrez, who knew he was HIV-positive and still turned tricks, became that state's first person to face felony sex solicitation charges under a new law there that is intended to crack down on the spread of AIDS.

Senator Phil Gramm, a bitter enemy of gay rights, suffered a double whammy in his quest for the GOP presidential nomination last week when former Senator Barry Goldwater, the governors of Illinois and Michigan, and even N.Y.'s powerful Senator Al D'Amato (a thug if ever there was one) all endorsed Gramm's leading opponent, Bob Dole.

Note to Gray Davis: I already have a short list of wannabe judges you should be thinking about when the governor's presidential campaign really gets fired up and he leaves the state for weeks at a time.

I don't know about you, but I'm ready to support a return to district elections of supervisors and legalized gambling in California. How about a casino referendum on next year's November ballot?

While political bigshots, Demo party officials and the

nation's press were fawning over former California Governor Edmund G. "Pat" Brown's celebrating his latest birthday, I was reminded of an interview he gave a few years ago in which he told *USA Today*, in reply to a question of what should be done about AIDS, that "the rise of homosexuality and the acceptance of it has promoted the disease. It is a real curse. We should make homosexuality like bad breath, not tolerated. It is abnormal. Remember you are talking to a reactionary old man, but that's the way I feel about it." A bigoted, homophobic, reactionary "old man" to be sure. And a belated happy birthday to you, Governor.

Just when we thought we had seen the last of vile ex-Congressman William Dannemeyer, he is reportedly ready to seek a state Senate seat from Orange County next year.

Bitchy television: When NBC's *Today Show* host Bryant Gumbel charged on the air last week that Ollie North managed to denounce all the liberal guests he invited on his radio show, North snapped, "You know, Bryant, I don't think anybody ought to take themselves as seriously as you do every morning. I don't take myself that seriously." Gumbel shot back: "Oh, clearly not. Perhaps the oath you took should have been more serious before lying to the government, too." Tsk, tsk. Back to you, Katie.

District Attorney Arlo Smith, one of the most decent people in public service, will seek another term this year. I can remember when he and his wife walked precincts for candidate Harvey Milk. Smith deserves the support of everyone in our community come November.

Last Sunday was, of course, Mother's Day, and I want to offer congrats to Senator Barbara Boxer for having been named by the National Mother's Day Committee as one of four women in the nation to be honored with the Outstanding Mother Award. (The others were First Lady Hillary Clinton, NBC newscaster Jane Hanson and Carolyn McCarthy, who has been lobbying for stricter gun control since her husband was killed and her young son seriously injured by the Long Island Railroad gunman.) Mother's Day became a national holiday back in 1913; the coveted award was first presented in 1979. Did you remember your mother May 14? ▼



Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland

Flag waiver Jesse Jackson May 6 at Dolores Park.

Commentary

Representative Richard Arme of Texas, made his infamous "Barney Fag" remark about gay Massachusetts Congressman Barney Frank. However, after a political firestorm threatened to envelop Arme, he explained that the slur "was not meant to be personal" but merely a "slip of the tongue."

Last week, it was yet another Republican congressman who took his turn at insulting homosexuals by angrily railing about "homos" in the military. Some GOP members recognized that they weren't helped by this latest instance of homophobia, but none stepped forward to tell Representative Randy (Duke) Cunningham from San Diego that it's people like him who breed hate and violence.

You can bet that this is a pattern methodically worked out by Gingrich and the rest of the House GOP elite, and we will most certainly be hearing more such outbursts. After all, the anti-gay Christian Coalition and others of their ilk are the ones who put guys like Cunningham in office. Arme and Cunningham are obviously both willing and obligated to keep the homophobia message booming loud and clear from our nation's capital.


Even the feds caught the drift last week when the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that the Constitution gives gays no protection against discrimination by the government at any level, and stated further that cities and states are free to appeal any protective laws they had already placed on the books.

Politics and people

Happy Birthday, Harvey! Next Monday, May 22, would have been Harvey Milk's 65th birthday.

Those who witnessed this incident are still annoyed and upset that Jesse Jackson, appearing here at a recent rally against the GOP's "Contract on America," steadfastly refused and backed away when one gay activist requested his signature on the Gay and Lesbian Freedom Flag. "He can't sign that. There's too much media around," one of his "aides" explained. Could the Reverend Jackson be worried that somehow signing a gay flag could cause him a bit of trouble in the future — like when he launches yet another presidential bid?


Off and running: The next primary isn't until next March, but Supervisor Carole Migden will kick off her campaign for Willie Brown's Assembly seat at the Coconut Grove on Van Ness Avenue, the city's newest



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Phil Donahue, The Donahue Show, December, 1992

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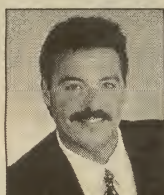
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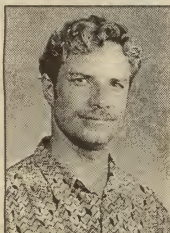
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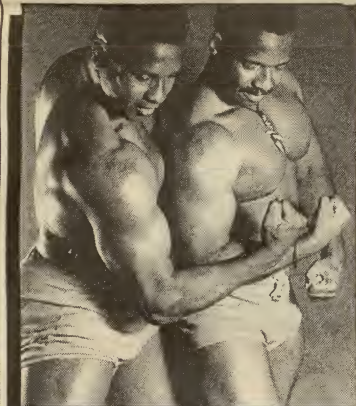
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DYKEOTOMY

Jesus, Jerry, Sweet Honey: Woman's Quest for Divinity

by Elissa Perry

In search of spiritual expression and harmony, I began a journey through twisted realities — but realities nonetheless. Each of the drastically different environments and states of mind presented me with offerings; some of the traditions and oblations caused me to balk, and others I embraced and sopped up like biscuits and gravy. Now, if you believe that the "no pain no gain" theory applies to spirituality — let us pretend it does for a moment — you will understand when I tell you that I have to make sure that my gain does not pale when compared with my pain.

As a recovering Catholic, I know I do not wish to have anything to do with drinking the blood of Jesus, let alone eating him; I would much rather be coveting my neighbor's wife. Aware, from my childhood church-going days, that I would not kneel down and consume Jesus, I, in a dress, tights, "ladies' shoes" and a leather jacket, recently embarked on a trip to a neighborhood black Baptist church.

The church was a community of sorts, but not one where I want to live. It had its own rules and regulations, conservative streak and eccentricities. Being a black woman in a dress, I was warmly welcomed with smiles and nods of acknowledgment.

The ceremony I could not swallow. The beautiful stories and emotions expressed by the voices of the women in the choir opened wounds that were later salted by the preacher. He spoke of "brotherly love." Women made up more than half the con-

gregation. The "peace and sanctity," equated with the promised land that he had achieved by being "saved and given the gift of eternal light," was only a crumb of the pie I envision as the promised land.

The music, however, stayed with me for days. I wanted more of the voices, but I had no tolerance for the rest. Actually, the experience was much like my relationship with watermelon bubble gum. It has a flavor all its own, not quite like watermelon but not like anything else. I chew it for a few minutes; take it out (the sugar hurts my teeth much like the salt); analyze it,

hard, man." An attempt was made on my part to connect with another sister by using the standard simple inquiry, "Hey, how's it going?" She responded with uncontrollably rolling eyes and a slurred "Havin' a good show, dude?" I kid you not.

I guess the Jerry fans have to start listening to something other than dollar signs somewhere, but that certainly is not where I needed to be. Although Jerry did fundraisers for the Black Panthers before it was cool and has advocated for black and gay rights over the years, he still doesn't seem to quite get it.

The last stop in my quest for divinity that I will tell you about was pure chewing satisfaction. An evening with Sweet Honey in the Rock.

There I was completely naked without an adopted persona for the evening. My sisters, any one of whom could also have been my mother, were cradling and caressing me with their voices, all the while rearranging my innards.

They pushed and pulled me to my limits with my mind pried open so that it could swim freely. They gently roped me in and seated me in my chair before they left the stage. It was as if gravity had forgotten me one hot summer day and left me to float into my own world where I could eat fresh cold watermelon forever.

At last I had found the spirits to whom I could entrust my own. My only pain was scraping together \$20 for a ticket — and that is \$10 less than a ticket to see that big, white, hairy man I'll have you know. ▼

Commentary

noticing its unique shape; throw it away; and savor the pleasant taste for a while knowing that it just ain't the real thing.

Spiritual constipation vs. complete nakedness

Jerry Garcia: Talk about experiencing spiritual constipation. The pain was not bad. I was assaulted by rich boys atoning for their sins by listening to a big, white, hairy man howling black folks' words about getting to the promised land.

I am so accustomed to this sort of torture that I was numb (or maybe it was just the stupefying contact high). I made no gain. It was as if he tried to hug me and my immediate reaction was to push him away with my elbows in his chest.

The handful of dykes as well as the few black people present seemed to be "tripping way

Migden

Continued from page 1

The first successful repeal of gay rights as a ballot measure in America was Colorado's Amendment Two in 1992, and members of the group that backed that measure have since exported their knowledge, helping to initiate similar legislation throughout the country. It is only because of hard work by the Colorado Legal Initiative Project and other concerned lawyers that the tenets of Amendment Two have not yet become law. The U.S. Supreme Court is scheduled to hear the case later this year.

Migden told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "I was there to say 'Good for you,' and help bolster them up and tell them we'll help you in California."

"We're [still] trying to figure out what we're

going to try and do about it here in California," she said, then added, "I think I have a leadership role here and I should use it to advance the community here, and also nationally."

And bolster and advance she did. Migden told the Colorado audience, largely comprised of members of the group the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, "I commend the Colorado Legal Initiatives Project for their efforts to keep this deplorable law from taking effect."

The admiration was mutual. Denver attorney Mary Celeste, who assisted in the suit against Amendment 2, told the B.A.R. that Migden's presence was crucial for Colorado activists who don't live in a large gay community like San Francisco. "When you see someone [like Migden] who has come so far as an openly lesbian elected official, it's inspiring to others," she said. "We're talking about starting at Ground Zero here." ▼

SFAF

Continued from page 1

join or not join the union, but all new employees must pay either union dues or affiliation fees to the union — unless they are prohibited by religion from doing so.

After six months, new employees will have a month to decide if they want to continue as a union member or not.

Every 18 months after they either joined the union or paid affiliation fees, workers have one month to revisit and change their decision, according to Regina Aragón, Deputy Director for Public Policy.

Non-union workers are free

to join the union at any time, but under the modified agency shop proposal all employees are still members of the bargaining unit and are bound by the contract, Aragón said.

New policies to be implemented

Under the proposal, SFAF workers who provide bilingual services on the job will receive a \$50 monthly premium. The proposal also initiates a grievance and arbitration process that will be used to resolve disputed issues.

Because the San Francisco AIDS Foundation has been unsuccessful in finding a healthcare insurance provider to provide healthcare coverage for

domestic partners of its employees, Aragón said the agency will pay the premiums for registered domestic partners who are able to obtain individual coverage privately. If domestic partners are unable to obtain insurance, the agency will contribute to the medical bills of the partner up to the amount they pay for the worker's healthcare insurance coverage.

"I'm pleased that this chapter in the foundation's history is being closed," Christen said. "It will allow us to reinvest ourselves in the fight to end this horrible pandemic."

The 11-year-old non-profit social service agency has more than 100 employees and a \$10 million annual budget. ▼



Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland

Ready, Set, Go

Stage manager Libby Kava keeps things organized at the May 15 Help Is on the Way benefit, which raised funds for Visiting Nurses and Hospice/SF and Coming Home Hospice. The event, billed as "a cabaret-style variety show," featured such talents as Lisa Vroman, Nancy LaMott, Val Diamond, Meg Mackay, Michael Pritchard, Marilyn Pittman, Matthew Martin and Paul Anelli, among others. The show at the Palace of Fine Arts was produced by the Richmond/Ermet Fund, founded by Barbara Richmond and Peggy Ermet, who lost their only sons to AIDS.

Lesbian Custody Battle Resolved

Slain woman's lover, mother, pleased to share — sort of

by A. Cukan

BUFFALO (UPI) — The upstate New York custody battle between a lesbian and her slain lover's mother has been resolved in what is being called a landmark co-guardianship arrangement.

An agreement announced Thursday, May 11 in Buffalo, N.Y. divides custody of the three youngsters, conceived through artificial insemination, between Pamela Hennessy and the children's maternal grandmother.

"The arrangement gives both parties the ability to be involved in the day-to-day life of the children," Erie County Surrogate Judge Joseph Mattina specified, "and both parties must agree on all decisions concerning the boys' schooling, religion, and health."

The attorneys in the case said the custody arrangement is the first of its kind in the nation.

Although Mattina said he was pleased both parties agreed to the arrangement, Hennessy was "intimidated into signing the agreement," she told United

Press International.

"If I hadn't accepted the co-guardianship," she said, "I would have had very limited visitation with the boys."

The three boys, aged 6, 8, and 9, were conceived through artificial insemination while Hennessy was living with their mother, Michelle Ferraro Hennessy, who gave birth to the children. The two women underwent a marriage ceremony in 1987, but the union is not legally recognized in New York state.

Before Thursday's agreement, Hennessy had no legal relationship with the children.

The couple split up in 1990, but Hennessy, 38, took care of the boys in her home. Michelle Ferraro Hennessy was stabbed to death in April of 1994. No one has been charged in the murder.

After Michelle's death, both Pamela Hennessy and the maternal grandmother, Patricia Bartel, sued for custody of the boys.

The court placed the children in foster care with Bartel, while Hennessy was allowed one hour

supervised visits each week.

Under the agreement, the children will live with their grandmother and stay with Hennessy on alternate weekends, Wednesdays, holidays, and vacations.

The court will continue to make quarterly assessments of the arrangement, and both the adults and children will continue to receive professional counseling. ▼

Priscilla

Continued from page 2

indigent gay men.

"The AIDS service delivery system was designed for middle class people," Cross said, "but our clients may have been living on the streets or under a bridge for the last six months when they come in, because they have a lesion or have night sweats."

Emergency emergencies

"It's just one example," Cross told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "but in order to receive 'emergency housing,' clients need to have a letter of diagnosis. Our clients may not have seen a doctor for years, much less have a letter of diagnosis. So, we have emergency emergency housing."

According to AIDS epidemiological experts, the Tenderloin officially has the third-highest incidence of AIDS among San Francisco neighborhoods, but because residents are typically diagnosed in later stages of the

disease, Cross and others familiar with the area believe that it actually has the highest incidence.

"In the gay community, we struggle to get desperately needed money to fight AIDS. We have to push still harder to get these resources into neighborhoods like the Tenderloin, which have quietly become the epicenter of a hidden wave of the epidemic; a quiet devastation, virtually ignored by the rest of the city," Cross said.

Tickets for the Castro Theater benefit cost \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. The event is sponsored by 10 Percent magazine, Skyy Vodka, Gramercy Pictures, and The Lavender Pages.

A post-Priscilla party following the screening will be held from midnight till dawn at the DNA Lounge, located at 375 Eleventh Street. Tickets are \$10. ▼

For more information about Tenderloin AIDS Resource Center benefit events call the Priscilla Hotline at (415) 241-8880.

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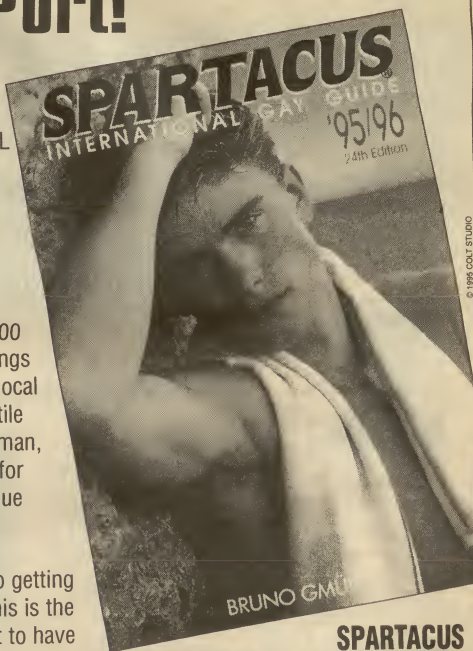
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BUSINESS NEWS

A hotel room of one's own

by Kent Brandley

The great advantage of a hotel is that it's a refuge from home life," said George Bernard Shaw. Maybe that's why so many gay people in San Francisco make their homes in them. Then again, maybe it's because so many of the city's plentiful, small, gay-friendly residential hotels are very affordable.

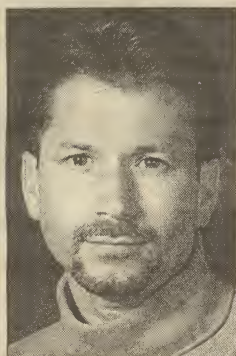
With city rents continuing to soar, many working people of limited means are establishing relatively permanent domiciles in such hotels, which usually

have two distinct advantages: they generally require no security deposit, and they are available on a weekly, rather than monthly, basis. That helps both those who have trouble setting aside larger sums in these recession-plagued days, as well as apartment-dwellers who need to stash visitors who've arrived for a week or — gasp — two (as visitors to this town are so frequently wont to do).

Rents at the smaller residential hotels are available from around \$85 per week without private bath, up to \$135 per week with bath. (And way, way, beyond, of course, depending upon your definition of a residential hotel and your requirements; these are not guppy hotels or bed-and-breakfasts we're talking about here, but basic, decent livable places to fall back on or get started in.)

Among the best of these, in terms of both location and management, is the **Palo Alto Hotel**, located at 1685 Sacramento near Polk. The bay-windowed building is old, but it is clean and well-maintained. The Palo Alto is where many of the brawny Golden Gate Bridge workers were housed during its construction — and rumor has it some of them still remain. For those who like their construction workers a little more contemporary, a host of muscular blue collar lads have been swarming in and out of the high-rise condominium now being built across Sacramento Street. Their activities have been a source of some delight to the hotel's staff and gay male tenants of late (offsetting the noise of heavy equipment early in the morning).

Jim Esselstine, the Palo Alto's manager, is quick with a quip and manages to walk the thin line of allowing tenants their right to privacy while keeping a tight lid on security. The chief disadvantage of living at the Palo Alto, where rooms



Veep Steven Biasatti.

aiming for the more well-heeled traveler). They call the **San Francisco Marriott** "a beehive eyesore," adding "The best reason to stay here is that you can't see it from inside your room." Wait a minute now, some of us kind of like the giant jukebox. They also sharply put down the Leland. "Their advertisement features an illustrated butt crack," the magazine, er, cracks, "probably because it's more attractive than their rooms or location." And they say **The Black Stallion** (on Castro Street) is "very sexually focused." Oh well, there are those readers who may not always find that so exceedingly horrible.

Top of the line, according to **OUT AND ABOUT**, is **The Ritz-Carlton** at 600 Stockton — but of course you could stay a whole month at the Palo Alto for the price of one night at the Ritz!

Not surprisingly, the national gay travel magazine makes favorable mention of **Chip Conley's** gay-managed **Joie De Vivre** hotel chain — previously detailed in this column — with eight hotels and two restaurants, now San Francisco's second largest independent hotel company. Conley, a Stanford Business grad, is gay, as are about half of his senior hotel managers.

Vice President, Anyone?

The **East Bay Business and Professional Alliance**, a growing and vital organization that now boasts more than 130 members, will be electing all new officers in June — current officers will serve until the end of July — and since President **Merle Yost**, Vice President **Steven Biasatti**, and Treasurer **Tom Kelem** are all choosing not to run for re-election, the organization is looking for qualified candidates.

Biasatti wrote a humorous essay on the topic "What does a vice president do?" that was included with the organization's recent monthly newsletter *The Alliance*. In "A Note from the Veep" he pretty well covered the vice presidential thing: his letter on *Montclair Better Homes Realty* letterhead lists George Bush, Dan Quayle, Al Gore, and himself (get it? well-known veeps) with a space for "Your Name Here..." This is a guy who is earnestly looking for a relief pitcher.

"You too can follow this long line of tasty fodder for late night talk show hosts! Take my job please," he wrote. "Actually, with some one and three-quarters terms under my belt, I can speak from genuine experience. Being an elected Big Mouth has lent authority to something I do naturally, and it has been fun, too."

"Kids, this is what it's all about. It does make a difference both for you and your business' visibility, and I know from personal experience that it does positively impact your business success."

If you would like to throw your hat in the ring and run for office in the upcoming **East Bay Business and Professional Alliance** election call **Steve Biasatti** at (510) 339-8400. ▼

rent (by the week only) from \$85 and up, is the gay bar downstairs that rocks out on the Polk Street side until 2 a.m., causing a couple of the rooms directly over the dance floor to be known as "boom boom rooms." They are best suited for rock fans or the hard of hearing — or out-of-town guests who like that sort of thing (and many do).

The Palo Alto, the **Shirley** at 1544 Polk, and the **Leland** at

OUT for business

1355 Polk (a more conventional tourist-type hotel with desk clerk, lobby, and over 100 rooms), are all run by **Gerda Kircher**, a colorful and very gay-friendly woman born near Berlin, and her husband **Vincent**.

Incidentally, the May issue of the gay travel newsletter **OUT & ABOUT** focuses entirely on San Francisco and advises caution on hotels (they are definitely

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BAYMEC To Honor Mineta at Annual Dinner

by Marv. Shaw

The gay political organization BAYMEC (Bay Area Municipal Elections Committee) will honor Japanese-American Congressman Norman Mineta for his strong stand on civil rights for all at its annual dinner-dance at San Jose's Fairmont Hotel on June 3, co-chairmen Richard Nichols and Dennis Nyitray have announced.

Mineta, representative of the 15th Congressional District (Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties), made a forthright stand for gay rights at the national convention of the Japanese American Citizens League in Salt Lake City on August 6, 1994. He spoke against a resolution to disavow the action of the National Board of the organization endorsing gay rights.

The basis of his statement was the inclusion of such an



Rep. Norman Mineta.

organization as the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force among such similar groups as the National Council of La Raza on the issue of civil rights. "These organizations, and their

members, joined us because they understood and believed in our argument that a threat to the civil rights of one American is a threat to civil rights of all Americans," he said.

The specific background issue was the decade-long struggle for redress by Japanese-Americans for the isolation and deprivation they had to endure when they were forcibly relocated in concentration camps during World War II. For years, Mineta pointed out, the congressional body charged with the primary action on redress, the Administrative

Law Subcommittee in the House of Representatives, was chaired by an opponent of redress. But when openly gay Massachusetts Representative Barney Frank became chairman, the redress moved rapidly to completion.

As part of the honoring ceremony, Frank will appear on video with his own statements on Mineta and their mutual con-

cern for civil rights. Mineta is especially grateful because Frank came to him with a proposal for breaking the stall.

In his convention statement Mineta pointed out, "I cannot think of any more dangerous precedent for this organization to set than to take a position on an issue of principle based solely on how directly it affects Americans of Japanese ancestry." The resolution was defeated, a de facto recognition of the equality of gay civil rights

groups with those of racial and other minorities.

The BAYMEC event will recognize many other politicians and gay activists during the evening. Karen Ripley will emcee, and music will be provided by the Jesse Charles Band. Cocktails will be available from 6 p.m., and dinner will be served at 7:30. ▼

Reservations and information can be secured by phoning (408) 486 9049.

Poll Results Prompt Yeager To Run for Assembly

Official announcement of candidacy expected soon

by Marv. Shaw

Encouraged by the results of a poll he commissioned from Evans/McDonough Inc., 42-year-old South Bay politico Ken Yeager is ready to announce his candidacy for the Democratic nomination in the 1996 race for Assemblyman of the 23rd Assembly District in San Jose.

The polls showed that "there was no clear front runner among the five probable candidates," said Yeager, "so it is obvious that anyone can win."

Yeager is quick to point out that even without a distinct advantage in numbers, other data from the poll show a favorable attitude toward a gay candidate. For example, of the 400 voters questioned in detailed, 20-minute interviews, 75 percent thought it okay for gays to be in the military and 65 percent believe that gays are due all the civil rights as straight citizens. Most important of all is the evidence that being gay would be no problem for a candidate.

Poll respondents indicated significant concern with both educational improvement and economic advancement, which are primary Yeager objectives for the district. His Ph.D. in political science from Stanford, his position as a professor of political science at San Jose State, and his presidency of the Board of Trustees of the Evergreen Community College District all won him voter enthusiasm for his potential.

The 23rd Assembly District comprises San Jose State, the city's Willow Glen and East Side areas, and downtown. The poll covered these areas and cost \$9,000. "Almost all of it was paid by solicited contributions," Yeager told the B.A.R.

As he had explained at the outset of the polling, the major organizations that would contribute money for the campaign itself base their decisions for the amount of support they would give on evidence that the pro-

posed candidate already has a strong voter appeal. The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, for example, will decide on his application by the end of this month. Yeager is confident of support from BAYMEC (Bay Area Municipal Elections Committee) and has had encouraging talks with San Francisco's Non-Partisan Alliance.

Other groups, such as P-FLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) and BANGLE (Bay Area Network of Gay and Lesbian Educators), are highly probable supporters, Yeager indicated.

Plans for Sacto

As a gay legislator in California, Yeager has definite plans. He would join Santa Monica lesbian Sheila Kuehl and the LIFE Lobby in their efforts and individually promote domestic partners legislation.

As a member of the higher education committee of the Assembly, he would work to improve the campus climate for gay students and influence curricula change to include gay material.

In the fall semester Yeager taught a course he designed in gay politics for San Jose State. "It was well supported by the university and deemed a success," he reported.

"At Evergreen, my most important success has been to raise academic excellence," he stated. "Part of that has been due to shifts of funds from administration to classroom needs," he added. Also, as a legislator, Yeager

would emphasize such educational improvements as early child-

Continued on page 17



Future candidate Ken Yeager.

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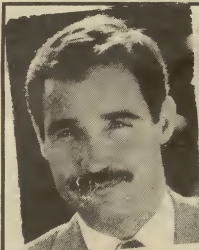
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PAGE 14—BAY AREA REPORTER—May 18, 1995

FIRST PERSON

We Mothers March, To Remember and Fight

by Kathryn M. Miller, Ph.D.

We stood there, more than a thousand of us, rooted to the sidewalk: a block-long line of women, mostly mothers, holding aloft pictures of bright-eyed, handsome, beautiful loved ones lost to AIDS or living with the disease.

Silently, we mothers stood—fathers and sisters and brothers and other concerned relatives and friends, welcomed and appreciated, at our sides. It was the defining moment of the May 7 Washington, D.C. Mothers March Against AIDS.

We stared across at the White House, willing our government to see: AIDS has a face. AIDS is our children. AIDS is we who care for them. AIDS is we who loved and lost, or will lose, or may lose, our most precious, most cherished of life's gifts to us—our children.

Steadfast in determination, motivated by an anger so intense it melded the differences among us, we stood in a united, solid, and powerful challenge against AIDS. No one cared, at this point, how sons and daughters become infected or affected by AIDS. No one asked or judged the origin of the disease in an individual. No one looked to see if we were religious or sexually diverse, or racial or culturally represented. No one asked if we were about to lose our children, or if we were concerned about potential risk to our children, or if we had already lost our children, or, even, if we had no sons or daughters to lose.

The only issue we collectively cared and care about, the only result we fervently desire is this: A cure for AIDS and an end to the AIDS epidemic.

The Washington Post, the next morning, reported there were 1,100 of us, and yet it felt more like three to four thousand as we streamed down the hill from the Washington Monument, marching on 15th Street, chanting our hopes: "A cure. A cure. A cure."

At a candlelight vigil the night before, we shared prayers for healing and remembrance. We named ourselves and our home bases: New York (ten busloads), New Jersey, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, California, Colorado, Ohio, Texas, Washington, D.C., Maine, Rhode Island, Missouri, and Pennsylvania.

Shared stories

Later, we shared stories. I learned why David Wheeler's eyes were so sad, so troubled. "I don't want to lose her," he said, indicating his 32-year-old wife Susan, who has AIDS. The Wheelers, of Conyers, Georgia, lost two-year-old Ashley to

AIDS in 1993 and, two years later, Brittany, at four. The twin sisters left behind a nine-year-old half-brother who grieves with his parents.

Margaret Douglas of New York lost her son Richard to AIDS the same year she underwent a liver transplant and lost her husband while grandchildren were being born. She was faced with a difficult incompatibility, grief over her losses and joy for her own life.

In a gathering at the Washington Monument the day of the march, I met a dozen or more P-FLAG members from Akron, Ohio. They wore shirts that proclaimed, "Our family has joined together to walk for people and families affected by HIV/AIDS." Betty Sobel told me that they go together anywhere to walk and speak and spread the message. Her son, Rick of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, was there to help the group carry their large posters filled with photographs. One of the photos was Rick's partner, another was Pedro Zamora, Rick's friend, and a star on MTV's *Real World*, a fallen star now. He was 22 years old.

"Clinton, keep your promises to me," proclaimed Linda Mowrer's sign. Linda's son Michael Harthaupt was in the picture with his mother and the President. Linda, who lives in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, said that Clinton promised more local AIDS funding and that he would raise his voice on behalf of persons with AIDS. He has not kept those promises, Linda says. Her son has survived five bouts of pneumocystis pneumonia since he was diagnosed in 1983.

At the White House, we stood for 15 long minutes and stared in silence at the symbol of that President. Finally, we turned and filed into Lafayette Park where we listened to the Stand Up Harlem Chorus from New York in gospel songs, spoke our own speeches, and sang our own songs.

Beverly Rotter of Brooklyn, New York, the aggrieved mother of poet and artist Iris De La Cruz, had sent the call to us. A year ago, a politician told her, "Only certain people get AIDS." Angered, Beverly, who describes herself as a "doer" rather than a talker, responded by organizing the mothers of America in the first Mothers Against AIDS march on Washington.

'Tie up a lion'

"We have lost our children before their time," Beverly said on this bright May Sunday before Mother's Day, "and we all grieve the same way." She reminded us of an old Ethiopian

proverb, "When spider webs unite, they can tie up a lion."

"We are here," she said, "to move mountains. And you better believe we will!"

And then it was our turn to say our speeches, read our poems, sing original songs, or as in one poignant moment, share a duet of hope. A young husband-wife team Dee Dee and Al McKittrick of Colorado (she with T-cells at zero) sang together "Somewhere over the rainbow..." Her mother Patti Fields and husband of Dallas were there, too, hoping.

Brett Lykins, a Georgia youth, is 15 and has been fighting AIDS all his life. "I'll take any experimental drug NIH comes up with," Brett told us. "I made it through elementary school and now I'm looking forward to high school."

Thirty-five year old Alice Bailey, also of Georgia, told me the night of the vigil, "I lost my baby Angela at seven months. It was at her funeral I learned that it was AIDS and that I am infected, too." In the park, Alice read a letter from feminist writer Susan Sarandon who wrote, "I want everyone to act like a mother. AIDS is a political disease."

Wendy Binkowitz, home state not identified, sang a song she composed for her brother and friends she has lost. "The best we have is right here in the moment... the best we have is a heart that dares to open here and now."

Bambi Magie read poems by Iris De La Cruz, Beverly's daughter, "I have survived [terrible struggles in life]. ... With love in my heart and fire in my eyes, now tell me I can't survive AIDS." She didn't.

"This disease doesn't wait for the convenience of government," a founding member of P-FLAG, Richard Ashworth of New York, declared. "We demand our government stop the suffering and save our children." He and his wife lost a son.

"AIDS is not something to keep in the closet," Demetra Patukus of Pennsylvania said. She lost George, her son who founded an ethnic dance group.

Christine Boston, a New York mother and a gospel singer, was moved to spontaneous speech. "God told me to stand up and be counted. Stand up and fight," she challenged. "If you fight, you are a winner."

'Don't turn away'

As a mother from California, I reminded everyone, "AIDS is not a gay disease!" I implored America to acknowledge our sons who are gay, our daughters who are lesbian, and the work they began and carry forward in dealing with AIDS. "Don't turn away. Help us conquer AIDS."

My son-in-law, Garrett, my son's husband, died just one year ago to the date of the march.

Pat Paakaula came from Hawaii to say the worst night of her life was when her son Kaipo told her he was HIV-positive. Kaipo died in June. Pat's traveling companions Peter and Louise Walker lost their son Ted the same day Garrett died. Louise sold copies of her writings, now in the book *Why him? Why now?* and gave all the money to Mothers Against AIDS.

Joanna De Fairia of New York lost two sons in three months to AIDS. "We are here to stop the pain, the anger, the tears, the suffering," she said.



The Mothers March Against AIDS hits the streets of D.C. May 7.

Photo: Bob Roehr

Hilda Nieves, home state unannounced, read a poem she wrote while tending her son Nicky. "AIDS came to visit and stayed on and on, unwelcomed. AIDS never leaves."

"Gratitude," Pearl Minsky from New York said. "I'm here because I'm blessed and grate-

ful that I haven't lost a child to AIDS. AIDS can hit anywhere - anytime!" Pearl was a mainstay to Beverly in organizing the march.

Frank Donnelly, a psychotherapist from New York, urged that mothers organize more support groups. He started

one in New York City and now there are ten. There are also a Mothers Hotline, a day care center, a buddy system to support mothers unable to come to groups, and educators who work to stem and stop the epidemic. "Strength," he said, "is in mothers who have a clear, clean

agenda to bring this horror to an end."

It was time for Beverly to bring the rally to an end. "We the mothers of America spoke out, carrying pictures of our children. We won't let the world forget them. We must not lose another generation. It's unbelievable that people are taking money from programs where more money is needed. We need research and HIV prevention education and support. We need to talk openly about drugs and sex. We, as mothers, will do it."

A few aides for AIDS

The rally ended, but the cause was just beginning. The next day at a breakfast meeting with a few aides (very few) from Congress, mothers demanded action.

When a letter from Charles Norwood of Georgia to one of his constituents, a mother among us, was read, furious mothers signed and sent to his office a spontaneous note denouncing the representative's arrogance and ignorance with a copy of a newspaper story about the march. Representative

Continued on page 18

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GLAAD

Fundies to boycott Vaseline?

by Al Kielwasser

The "American Family Association" is a heterosexual supremacist organization dedicated to media monitoring. Claiming an "active involvement of ONE MILLION PLUS supporters," AFA president Don Wildmon describes his organization as "America's #1 pro-family organization fighting for wholesome, family-oriented TV." Actually, AFA members advocate for heterosexual censorship and homophobic defamation on mainstream radio and television.

The AFA's most recent project involves a "Nationwide Television Values Survey," mailed to homophobes across the nation. The "results" of the "survey," the AFA says, will be shared with major TV advertisers.

The "survey" materials (which double, of course, as an AFA fundraising letter) state, "Our children are crying for network TV to teach them values. But instead of giving them values, Hollywood and network TV give your children ... OVER 15,000 SEXUAL ACTS AND INNUENDOS IN A GIVEN YEAR!"

"The single best way to change what's on TV," Wildmon writes, "is to CONVINCE CORPORATE AMERICA TO STOP SPONSORING TV SHOWS which [sic] TEACH our children to be ... SEXUALLY ACTIVE ... ANTI-GOD and ANTI-FAMILY."

With a frightening dedication to abject censorship, Wildmon also tells his followers: "It isn't good enough for you to just protect your own children from the moral poison of network TV. To give your children and your family real protection, YOU HAVE TO WORK TO PROTECT THEIR PEERS, TOO." In other words, no one (or as Wildmon would put it, "NO ONE") should be allowed watch what AFA members don't like.

This new AFA campaign specifically targets the Unilever corporation. According to Wildmon, Unilever is "a leading sponsor of programs promoting homosexuality." For sponsoring such "trash on television" and "an endless stream of network TV filth," Wildmon has called for a boycott of Unilever products (which include Calvin Klein cosmetics, Close-Up toothpaste, Q-tip swabs, Vaseline products, Lipton tea, and the Dove, Lever 2000, and Lifebuoy brands of soap).

With his "values survey," Wildmon has shipped out thousands of "boycott cards" that list Unilever's many products. "Send a message by leaving these products on the shelf," the card instructs each bigot-shopper. AFA members have also been given pre-printed complaint postcards, addressed to Unilever.

Once again, it's important for Unilever to hear from more enlightened consumers, who support the fair, accurate and diverse representation of lesbian and gay lives. The company should be encouraged to publicly expose and denounce the AFA's hateful agenda.

Contact Richard A. Goldstein, President, Unilever United States Inc., 390 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022, tel. 212-888-1260 or 800-598-

1223, fax 212-906-4411; Donald Wildmon can be reached at the AFA, P.O. Drawer 2440, Tupelo, MS 38803, tel. 601-844-5036; Modem monitors can track (and counteract) AFA activities on America Online (in the publications library of the Religion forum; keyword "RELIGION") and CompuServe (in the Religion forum's Christianity library; "GO RELIGION"); AFA publications are also available through AFA's section of CompuServe's Christian Interactive Network ("GO CIN") or by e-mailing the AFA cult directly (AmFamily1@aol.com).

A death in the life

"Soon a tractor-trailer roared toward him on the freeway below and, with perfect timing, he jumped the 25 feet into its path. The impact ripped away most of his clothes. He was killed instantly."

With that stark description, Craig Wilson began his compelling feature story, "A Gay Son's Suicide, A Mom's Rebirth." The article appeared on the front page of the "Life" section in *USA Today's* May 9th issue.

Wilson's article relates the powerful saga of Mary and Bobby Griffith. Mary—a fundamentalist "Christian"—could not accept her son's homosexuality, and so she worked diligently to rid Bobby of "the most despicable evil of them all." But, of course, Bobby didn't change; he died.

Bobby killed himself in 1983, and it was then that Mary began the "journey from conservative church-goer to parade-marching activist." Wilson touches upon many of Griffith's tireless efforts as he charts her encouraging transformation. Through this story, Wilson reveals—with tangible force—how the homophobia of the "religious right" can be "pretty deadly." Wilson also includes comments from other lesbian and gay activists, who highlight a range of key issues (suicide, resource programs, educational equity, PFLAG, cultural invisibility).

Wilson's feature—which opened at a death scene—concludes, appropriately, on a life-affirming note. Mary gets the last word, and it's a word of advice to mothers everywhere. If you have a gay son, she says, "Just love him."

It is no exaggeration to suggest that this kind of reporting could very well help to save a life or two (or even two thousand). *USA Today* is the nation's largest newspaper, reaching an estimated 5.5 million readers.

Send compliments to *USA Today*, 1000 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22229, tel. 703-276-3400, fax 703-276-5513, e-mail usatoday@clark.net.

A place for us?

"Matt Fielding" is the regular gay character (who has been irregularly a-sexual) on the prime-time drama *Melrose Place*. While his romantic life has been hinted at occasionally, Matt has—for the most part—failed to rise above a classic TV stereotype. As with many other portrayals, this homosexual

character could more accurately be described as "homosexless."

Even on a (relatively) progressive series like *Melrose Place*, the on-camera displays of affection are disproportionately reserved for heterosexual players. Matt's character is merely defined—but not fully depicted—as a gay man. In stark contrast to his heterosexual counterparts, Matt has been denied even the simplest of "kissing scenes."

Over the past two weeks, however, this double standard received a long-overdue (albeit limited) nudge. In a relatively-direct romantic portrayal, Matt was featured in a complicated tryst with a married closet case. The plot began as Matt met "Paul," a new doctor on the staff of the hospital where Matt works. A series of flirtations culminated in a scene in Matt's dimly lit bedroom. As the camera panned across Matt's bare chest, Paul—dressed only in his shorts—is seen wandering into the hall. There, he makes a phone call to his wife and lies that he is stuck "working" late at the hospital.

More suggested sex followed in the next episode, as did an ugly confrontation between Matt and Paul's wife. She accused Matt of "seducing" her husband ("Sure, that's how you people are"), which Matt denied ("I didn't seduce him"). While his denial lacked the poetry of protest rhetoric or activist rage, Matt's weak response might be excused in this context (after all, his romantic dreams—once again—became a nightmare).

What's significant here is not the horror of Matt's sexual relationship, but the very fact that this relationship was given some tangible form in the first place. It's a minor breakthrough, but a breakthrough nonetheless. Besides, the melodramatic genre all but requires unhappy endings, especially for the "good guys." And, to the show's credit, *Melrose Place* has consistently portrayed Matt as a genuinely moral and good hearted person.

The potential clearly remains. *Melrose Place* may yet depict the gay kiss that eludes Matt (and every other gay TV character). If he can be shown experiencing the same pain as his straight neighbors, Matt should be allowed—at the very least—to exhibit an equal passion.

Send feedback to Aaron Spelling, Darren Star, and E. Duke Vincent, Executive Producers, *Melrose Place*, Spelling Enterprises, 5700 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90036; copy your comments to Chase Carey, President, Fox Broadcasting, P.O. Box 900, Beverly Hills, CA 90213, tel. 310-277-2211, e-mail foxnet@delphi.com.

We must confront the media's homophobia in order to cure it! To notify GLAAD-SFBA of any defamatory or affirmative media coverage call our 24-hour media watch hotline at 415-861-4588, or write to "Media Watch," Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation-San Francisco Bay Area, 1360 Mission Street, Suite 200, San Francisco CA 94103; tel. 415-861-2244, fax 415-861-4893, e-mail GLAADSFBA@AOL.COM.

Democrats Condemn 'Homo' Remark by Cal Congressman

United Press International

WASHINGTON — House Democrats joined Thursday in condemning Republican Representative Randy Cunningham of California for his reference during floor debate to "homos in the military."

Representative Barney Frank of Massachusetts, who is openly gay, called Cunningham's remarks "bigoted" and said, "The time is over when I will let that kind of gratuitous bigotry go unchallenged."

Cunningham addressed the remark to Representative Patricia Schroeder, D-Colorado, during debate on environmental legislation.

Countering Schroeder's support for an amendment applying the requirements of the federal Clean Water Act to shore-based naval facilities, Cunningham addressed Schroeder as "You socialist," and said he expected such a position "from someone who would support homos in the military."

A small number of legislators were on the floor at the time, and one of them, Representative Bernard Sanders, I-Vermont, said Cunningham had insulted "thousands" of members of the U.S. mili-

tary who have fought and died for their country.

Several Democrats, having arrived shortly afterward to vote on the amendment, which was overwhelmingly rejected, condemned Cunningham's remarks. Representative Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., said he felt "shock and outrage and contempt."



Randy Cunningham

Cunningham returned to the floor to insist his comments were defensible because they were part of a larger criticism of Schroeder as a lawmaker who would "degrade the national security of this country."

Stopping short of an apology, Cunningham said: "I used the shorthand term, and it should have been 'homosexuals' instead of 'homos.' We do misspeak sometimes."

Frank said, "Trying to prove anything to the member from California goes beyond the pale of my oath, and I won't try." ▼

Cincinnati

Continued from page 1

Arthur Spiegel had cited two grounds for his 1994 ruling against the ballot measure. He said the charter amendment violated both the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution (the right to petition) and the 14th Amendment (equal protection).

Lawyers for the city and the

out-of-state coalition that supported the amendment successfully argued before the appellate court that gay, lesbian, and bisexual citizens should not be considered a legally identifiable class entitled to special protection under the law.

"We think the 6th Circuit is flat-out wrong," said lawyer Scott Greenwood, the ACLU attorney for the plaintiffs. "The court ignored or seriously mis-

construed a whole body of constitutional law. I don't know what case they were deciding, but it wasn't ours."

"The court's ruling would make Issue 3, which actually encourages discrimination, a part of the basic law of Cincinnati," Greenwood told United Press International. "That makes this a shameful day in Cincinnati and a shameful day for the Constitution." ▼

Restitution

Continued from page 5

images.

Other honorees include James Kennedy, author of *About Face*, and lesbian and gay veterans interviewed by Jenkins — the better-known of whom are Donna Jackson and Zoe Dunning. There will be places of honor for Keith Meinhold and Greta Cammermyer, who can't attend May 20, but will place their bricks later.

The first panel of the Wall of Restitution is

sponsored by Tale Spinners Theater, marking its 20th year with this run, and *A Credit to Her Country*. The play is directed by Paoli Lacy, who has directed eight world premieres.

The themes in her play "go beyond the military and reflect gay civil rights issues in American society today," Jenkins said. It will run May 20 - June 4, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays at 8 p.m.

"We have a committee ready to organize a national tribute as soon as the play closes," Miller said. ▼

For theater tickets or more information call (415) 431-2221.

Yeager

Continued from page 13

hood education, promoting retention efforts to keep students in high school, and fostering job retraining. "It is vital to a changing economy," he emphasized.

As an example of his innovative educational ideas, Yeager cited a program in which students in their final semester at Evergreen are paired with a San Jose student whom they join in a mutually chosen class at SJS. This introduction to a four-year college will encourage transfers once the student has received his or her Associate of Arts degree at the two year institution.

Soon, a Yeager for Assembly office will be opened near the Billy de Frank Gay and Lesbian Community Center in San Jose. He will probably announce his candidacy officially at the Democratic headquarters in June. ▼

Contributing supporters and potential volunteers are urged to contact Yeager at 1925 Cleveland Ave., San Jose, CA 95126 and/or phone (408) 297 1024.

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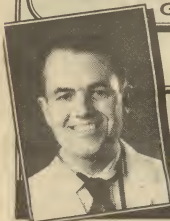
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Nevirapine

Two groups of volunteers with 200-500 CD4: those who have taken AZT for 4-24 months, who receive either AZT plus NVP or AZT plus placebo, and those who have not taken antiretrovirals, who receive NVP or placebo. The study offers cross-over to active drug for all participants. Boehringer Ingelheim.

For further information,
please call the Client Care Coordinator at (415) 353-6215.
HIVCare is a program of the Clinical Research Department
at Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, 900 Hyde St., SF 94109.

HEALTH NEWS

Gallo: Hormone May Stop KS

Pregnant women's urine 'blocks tumors, and kills them'

by Karen Klinger
UPI Science Writer

BETHESDA — National Cancer Institute researchers announced May 3 a hormone found in the urine of pregnant women appears to kill cells of Kaposi's sarcoma (KS), a cancer that is generally very rare, except among people with AIDS, especially gay men.

Estimates are that more than a third, and perhaps as many as 50 percent, of gay men with AIDS will develop KS, which is characterized by malignant, blue-red skin tumors usually found on the extremities. It also affects heterosexual men with AIDS, and women, but less frequently.

In a report in the journal *Nature*, investigators led by Dr. Robert Gallo of the NCI's Laboratory of Tumor Cell Biology said French researchers Jacques Besnier and Philippe Hermann noticed that all signs of KS disappeared in two women with AIDS — a 35-year-old African woman and a 27-year-old IV drug user — after they became pregnant. Gallo, the controversial scientist who battled French researcher Luc Montagnier for the right to be named discoverer of HIV, said the discovery corresponded with the results of seven years of laboratory work his team had done with immune-deficient mice. Clinical trials were then set up to give PWAs a hormone — chorionic gonadotropin — extracted from pregnant women's urine, and inves-

tigators say it appears to be completely non-toxic.

In an interview with United Press International, Gallo said the findings offer the first hope for an effective treatment for KS. "I don't want to say that this is going to be the answer," he said, "but it is promising."

He said scientists in his laboratory found that in mice, the hormone "not only blocked growth of [tumor] cells, but actually killed them."

Gallo said the findings may explain why Kaposi's sarcoma is uncommon in female AIDS patients. He said it appears that even non-pregnant women produce enough of the hormone to give them protection.

Gallo has been a controversial figure among science researchers because of a long-standing dispute about whether it was he or Montagnier of the Pasteur Institute in Paris who discovered HIV. Eventually, they reached a compromise with both men getting credit. He said he plans to leave the NCI within several months to establish a new institute of human virology at a location yet to be decided. ▼



Dr. Robert Gallo

Jordan Asks for HIV Housing Funds, Presidio Management

by Dennis Conkin

Mayor Frank Jordan went to Washington, D.C. this week to testify before Congress. The mayor lobbied for federal housing funds for the homeless, and spoke in support of legislation by Supervisor Nancy Pelosi to lease, manage, and finance the Presidio.

On Wednesday, May 17 Jordan met with US Department of Housing and Urban Development Secretary Henry Cisneros to lobby for \$32 million in federal homeless housing funds from the McKinney Act.

Stewart McKinney is the late New York Congressman who died of AIDS in the mid '80s.

The federal housing funds Jordan sought included \$20 million in supportive housing grants to provide transitional housing for families and people with HIV, as well as develop a "safe havens" project for mentally disabled homeless men and substance abuse services for the mentally ill.

Jordan also sought \$5 million in funds for San Francisco's successful Shelter Care program, which would add 90 units of housing for homeless families — increasing the current capacity to 400 units.

An additional \$8 million in funds sought by Jordan would provide 80 units of single room occupancy housing at the Apollo Hotel, a low-income housing facility in the Mission District.

Jordan testified a day earlier before the Subcommittee of National Parks, Forests, and Land of the House Resources Committee, about the importance of Presidio trust legislation.

Jordan criticized proposals that attempt to shift all responsibility for the former military base and national landmark — by conveying it or selling it from the Golden Gate National Recreation Area to San Francisco — as "the ultimate in unfunded federal mandates" and said the city had "no management or ownership interest" in the Presidio.

"The Presidio is a national park. It is a national asset. It is a national responsibility. As I have stated before, we will share in meeting that responsibility. We cannot, however, bear it alone," Jordan told the subcommittee.

Jordan said that San Francisco would spend \$42 million in capital costs including water reclamation, sewer improvements, and trolley line extension costs in the Presidio.

An additional \$1.5 million a year — in police, fire, and emergency services, and bus and light rail systems — is associated with ensuring the success of the proposed park, Jordan said.

During his Washington, DC trip, Jordan also planned to meet with Transportation Secretary Frederic Pena, to lobby for federal funds to expand Jordan's successful pilot program of installing surveillance cameras on MUNI buses. ▼

Mothers

Continued from page 15

Norwood had written of his belief in private donations, charitable organizations, and volunteering to "deal with these very significant problems." In part, Norwood wrote, "While AIDS is a tragic disease, it is perhaps most tragic for those people exposed to the disease unwittingly. Children, hemophiliacs, and others have been subjected to this disease by situations beyond their control. These people are perhaps the most deserving of our attention because they are clearly victims of this disease."

A friendly Congressional aide tried to sympathize by telling the story of a 15-year-old he'd met who had a blood trans-

fusion at four "and was —"

He caught a fury of hisses and boos, and didn't even get the words "innocently infected" out.

Mothers told him in voices raised in long-felt anger, "There is no 'good' AIDS, 'bad' AIDS. We are not interested in making AIDS a punishment or an occasion for martyrdom. Those attitudes must be changed. These are our children you are talking about. Accept them for who they are, real people with a real disease. We want them cured."

The mothers made a clear statement that we would not be divided by controversy. We will not be stopped by arrogance and ignorance.

There were people from Georgia in the breakfast room meeting who are now committed to the defeat of

Congressman Norwood and the rest of us pledged to help. Mr. Norwood's letter will be copied and read at every P-FLAG meeting in the nation.

While appreciating the representatives and senators who are working to hold on to funds, mothers demanded action and pledged their help. As of May 8, 53 senators were planning to vote to renew the Ryan White Care Act that provides financial help to those afflicted with AIDS. Mothers marched out the door of the breakfast room to lobby others to join these legislators. Mothers lobbied Congress that day and made plans to go home and organize marches in their own states.

Beverly said it all: "Tell them the mothers are coming, and we won't stop marching until there's a cure." ▼

What's in a Name? Plenty!

All ACT UP groups are not the same

A statement by
ACT UP/Golden Gate

We didn't know whether to laugh or cry last week when we read in a number of sources that "ACT UP" had disrupted Project Inform's 10th anniversary dinner. We weren't surprised that statements issued to the media by a small handful of individuals whom ACT UP/New York founder Larry Kramer appropriately called "psychopaths" were filled with lies, but we were aghast at how easily some were misled.

In case there is doubt in anyone's mind, ACT UP/Golden Gate did not disrupt Project Inform's dinner; in fact, many of us attended the event. We have an excellent working relationship with Project Inform, and — although no two organizations can agree all the time — we have worked with PI on many issues and will continue to do so.

The real story, one we wish would get more attention in the media, is how a tiny group has attempted to hijack the ACT UP name for its own purposes.

For the last several years, two separate ACT UP chapters — ACT UP/Golden Gate and ACT UP/San Francisco — have coexisted in the city. While we had different priorities and organizational styles, we shared the same goals as all ACT UP groups around the country: an end to the AIDS pandemic through improved research, treatment, care, and government policy, and, most importantly, a cure. The two groups often worked together.

But in the past year ACT UP/San Francisco has been taken over by a small clique calling themselves "DNCB Now!" They alienated and drove away longtime members — a number of whom have expressed to us their anger and sadness at what has become of an organization they once loved — until practically nobody but DNCB Now! was left.

As far as we can tell, ACT UP/San Francisco has effectively ceased to exist: Their only number listed in the phone book — "ACT UP Alternative Treatment" — is disconnected. They have not publicized regular meetings for some time, at least not in any publication we've seen. DNCB Now! continues to use the ACT UP name because it gets them attention, even though it is legally registered in San Francisco to a member of ACT UP/Golden Gate.

ACTIONS UPcoming

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Fax the CEO at (617) 982-9478.

— Compiled by
ACT UP/Golden Gate
Writers Pool

DNCB Now! has one purpose: To promote DNCB, an interesting but still unproved alternative treatment. They peddle highly questionable data and recklessly advise people to discontinue other potentially life-prolonging treatments, which allegedly interfere with DNCB. The flyer they handed out at the PI dinner is filled with outrageous falsehoods — like the ludicrous assertion that all anti-HIV drugs are "nothing but poison," not to mention the claim that ACT UP/Golden Gate and other groups "are so embroiled in conflict of interest that they must be viewed as enemies by PWAs." That last claim is libelous, and we challenge DNCB Now! to prove it.

Legitimate ACT UP groups never promote particular treatments or try to dictate to PWAs what drugs to take. We fight for improved research and greater access to any promising therapy. And while we don't hesitate



Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland

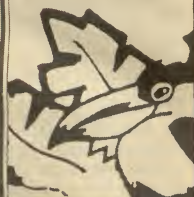
ACT UP'er Michael Bellafontaine gets wrestled away at the Project Inform dinner May 5 at the Hyatt Regency.

to use militant, disruptive tactics when appropriate — just ask Genentech or the California Medical Association — we don't support violence or

endanger the safety and well-being of other PWAs. And we know how to tell the difference between our enemies and our friends. ▼

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Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization - and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

Raymond Miller 1928 - 1995

Ray Miller passed away in his sleep on Saturday, May 6, in Eagle, Idaho. He was a longtime resident of San Francisco and a retired employee of Sears Roebuck. Ray was the owner of the Foghorn, a popular bar on Market and Franklin, from 1979 to 1984.

An easygoing and genial man, Ray will be missed by his many friends and by those to whom he was always helpful. He is survived by his sister, Evelyn Pogue, and an aunt, Violet Brewer, of Eagle, Idaho. Donations in his name may be sent to the AIDS Food Bank, 401 Duboce St., San Francisco, CA 94117. ▼

Molly G. Lawrence Dec. 11, 1908 - May 5, 1995

Our dear friend Molly passed away recently at Mt. Zion Hospital from a brain hemorrhage at age 86.

Born in Wellesley, Mass., Molly grew up in Chicago and Louisville. She received her B.S. in chemistry from the University of Michigan, and was a retired pharmacological researcher and medical copywriter. She will be missed by her many friends in Noe Valley, where she lived for the past 18 years.

A great friend of the gay community, Molly was philanthropically involved with many gay- and AIDS-related organizations. She was a rescuer of stray cats and a happy, friendly and independent woman until the day before her death.

Molly is survived by her nieces, Joie Hubbert of San Francisco and Alice Forbes of Seattle; her grandniece, Wendy Forbes; and two grandnephews, Bryan and Barry Forbes, also of Seattle.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to the SF Gay Men's Chorus, Visiting Nurses and Hospice, or the SF AIDS Foundation.

A memorial service open to all of Molly's friends will be held on June 9 at 4 p.m. at Bethany United Methodist Church, Clipper and Sanchez sts., San Francisco. ▼

Steven Stone

June 18, 1956 - March 21, 1995

Steven Stone died at his home on Sutter Street in San Francisco on March 21 after a prolonged AIDS-related illness.

Steven is survived by his loving parents, Rita and Arnold Stone, who were with him at home during his last seven weeks. He is also survived by his brother and sister-in-law, Doug and Arleen, and nephew, Jared.

Steven was a 25-year resident of California, having lived 12 years in Los Angeles and the last 13 in San Francisco. He was born in Wantagh, Long Island, New York. His last position was with Wells Fargo Bank, from which he retired due to failing health.

Steven loved all the furry animals of the kingdom, and his house reflected this love. His friends will remember him for his great sense of humor and the collection of whimsical artifacts in his home. He was a man of strong principle, and was very concerned with world events and man's inhumanity to man.

Steven will be missed and loved by all who knew him well. ▼

Steve Whitney

April 11, 1956 - April 23, 1995

On Sunday, April 23, in Keene, New Hampshire, surrounded by loving and supportive family and friends, Steve passed away peacefully of complications from AIDS. He was 39.

Steven was born and raised in New Hampshire. He moved to San Francisco in 1975 to make a new life for himself. A talented and innovative carpenter and cabinetmaker, he wasted no time in pursuing his dreams.

He immediately became involved in contemporary Victorian restorations and renovations of the highest quality. With the creation of the Whitney Construction Company, he collaborated on many high-profile commercial projects, such as the original Muscle System, The Music Hall and the Hothouse.

Steven's passion for building, creating and entertaining led to the construction of his loft and studio workshop at Eighth and Folsom. Those fortunate to have been there will always remember the many splendid dance party marathons and dinner parties large and small.

None of us will forget Steven's unique talents of inclusion and sharing, elevating the quality and joy in our lives. A celebration of his life will take place Saturday, May 20, at noon. For further information and instructions, call Jody at 648-7351. Donations to AIDS services in Steven's name are appreciated. ▼

John M. Miles

May 22, 1951 - May 13, 1995

John departed peacefully at his home on Saturday evening, May 13, ending a very lengthy and courageous battle with AIDS. Those present included his closest friend of 15 years and roommate, David Stoll, and his longtime friends, Butch Freeman and Ron Henies.

A native of Jessup, Georgia, John enjoyed a lifelong career in the hospitality industry. He arrived in San Francisco in 1977, and worked at the very popular and now defunct Balcony bar on Upper Market until 1982.

He then joined the staff of the San Francisco Eagle bar. For more than 10 years, he was the main bartender at the center bar, serving customers both inside and outside and becoming a legendary "fixer" in the process.

John's greatest efforts were for the AIDS Emergency Fund, Project Open Hand and the Shanti Project. He also supported World Vision Inc., an organization committed to assisting underprivileged children in Third World countries.

John is survived by his parents, Nelda and Rufus ("R.P.") Miles; sisters, Susan and Jean; aunts, Geneva and Dot; and several nieces and nephews. Funeral and memorial services had not been scheduled as of this writing.

Anyone wishing to remember John may do so by making a contribution in his name to the charity of their choice. Also, his friends and family want to express their heartfelt gratitude to Harriet Hayes and Ann Shay for their kindly care over many months. ▼

Peter Farnsworth Grasty

April 14, 1956 - April 5, 1995

It is with great shock and profound sadness that the family and close friends of

Peter Farnsworth Grasty note his passing on April 5. Peter died suddenly in San Francisco of Adult Respiratory Distress Syndrome due to pneumonia of unclear etiology. At the time of his death, he was surrounded by those most dear to him, including his beloved companion, his family and many dear friends.

Peter was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, and lived in many places, including a number in the Bay Area. He graduated from San Jose State University in 1989 and was the first SJS engineering graduate to earn an advanced degree at M.I.T. In 1993, Peter moved from Boston to the Bay Area with his partner David to attend a Ph.D. program at UC Berkeley. Peter had recently embarked on a new career as a change management consultant at Andersen Consultants in San Francisco.

Peter is survived by his beloved life partner, David Dao; parents, Mary Jane and Robert Grasty; brother, Thomas Grasty; and sister, Sheila Cowing. Peter also leaves behind many friends throughout the U.S. A memorial service was held on April 8 at the Skyline Community Church in Oakland. ▼

Vincent J. Basile

March 25, 1954 - March 25, 1995

Surrounded by those he loved, Vinny passed peacefully at his Guerneville home on the dawn of his 41st birthday.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., Vinny, the fiery, Italian Aries blazed his own bright trail in the profession of healing. First a respiratory therapist (1975), then a registered nurse at Fairleigh Dickinson (1982), he also received special training in critical care and cardiac nursing. Entering the U.S. Navy in 1982, he became lieutenant J.G. and served as a naval nurse at Oak Knoll Hospital.

Vinny's extensive experience in hospital emergency rooms gave him a unique perspective on life. His biting sense of humor could cut through the grumpiest attitude, showing us that life can be experienced with a lightness of heart, even in the face of the greatest darkness.

Never reluctant to lend a hand, Vinny's life was most noteworthy in his expression of unconditional love to those in need. From the most public trauma of the emergency room to the most intimate affairs of the human heart, Vinny was there.

He is survived by his devoted mother, Rose; his companion, Steven; his sister, Christina; niece, Francine; and his nephews, John and Fred. ▼

Bud Hinkle

Earl "Bud" Hinkle, 39, died with family in attendance at the family home on Monday, May 8 in Anderson, California after a long battle with AIDS.

"Bud," as he was known to family and friends, was instrumental in restructuring and developing programs to care for people with HIV/AIDS in Shasta County. He developed and coordinated the Volunteer Program for the Shasta-Trinity AIDS Consortium, founded and facilitated the Support Group for People with HIV/AIDS, organized the support group for Family, Friends and Caregivers of People with AIDS, and co-founded the Shasta-Trinity HIV Food Bank.

With the help from the Health Department and local clergy, he organized Shasta County's first AIDS Vigil and Candlelight Memorial Service for World AIDS Day. He was an active AIDS educator, speaking to numerous local organizations, schools, and media.

A life-long resident of Shasta County, he left only briefly to complete his Master's Degree in Psychology at Chico State University and to work with AIDS patients in San Francisco. During his six years in San Francisco, he earned his Marriage, Family and Child Counselor State License.

His spare time in San Francisco was spent at an AIDS volunteer for the Shanti Project and the UCSF AIDS Health Project Volunteer Therapist Program. He also worked for KAIROS House, facilitating support groups for Caregivers of People with AIDS, and with Caremark, facilitating a support group for infusion patients who had AIDS.

In 1990 he developed his private practice as a Psychotherapist. Though he worked with a variety of clients, his work in private practice mostly centered around individuals, couples, and groups of people with AIDS.

Bud is remembered for his caustic wit, organizational abilities, perfectionism, leadership, and his compassion and caring for people with AIDS and their families.

Those who continue to love him are his parents, J. Lee and Myrtle Hinkle of Anderson, California; his sisters Sherry Perry of Omaha, Nebraska, Judy Cardenas of Yuba City, California, Marcia Hinkle of Palo Cedro, California; his brothers Jay Hinkle and John Hinkle, both of San Diego, California; his nephews Jon, Jay) Christopher, Christian, and Daniel; and his long-time companions Frank Anderson and Rafael Lucatero of San Francisco.

A memorial service will be held in Redding at the Seventh Day Adventist Church, 2828 Eureka Way, on May 20 at 4 p.m.

A fund has been established by the Shasta-Trinity HIV Food Bank in Bud's memory. Contributions may be made to: Shasta-Trinity HIV Food Bank, Bud Hinkle Memorial Fund, P.O. Box 493283, Redding CA 96049-3283. Persons desiring further information may call (916) 223-2118.

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OBITUARIES

Scott Parker Lucas

March 23, 1950 - April 16, 1995

At 11 p.m. Easter Sunday, Scott died peacefully at home after a brave battle against AIDS. With him were his life partner, Dr. Richard Wolitz, and his dearest friend, Lisa Leff.

Scott is survived by his loving parents, Dorothy and John Lucas; devoted sister and brother-in-law, Donna and Dickie Stanley; and his beloved niece and nephew, Julie and John Stanley, of La Marque, Texas.

Scott graduated from La Marque High School and the University of Texas in Austin. He was employed by Pacific Bell for more than 20 years and leaves behind many wonderful friends at the Company.

Scott's friends and family gathered for a memorial service at Church of the Advent on April 19. His ashes were laid to rest in Palm Springs, California, on April 29.

Special thanks go to Sandra Orr, our angel, and to the dedicated staff at Kaiser San Francisco Hospital and Home Hospice Program; you helped make Scott's journey the peaceful one he deserved. ▼

Kevin Herbert Simms (Krystal)

April 12, 1995

On Wednesday, April 12, Kevin decided it was time for him to let go. By his side holding his hand were Elena, John, Bob, Dee Dee and, by phone from Las Vegas, his sister Betty. He left us with a snap of his fingers and a quiet "bye."

A fun-loving person with a great smile who loved life and always had a kind word, Kevin just wanted to be accepted for the real person inside. He loved his friends who helped him when his family did not.

Kevin left behind his two beautiful cats, Liza and Christina; many loving and caring friends; and his family, including his mother and stepfather, Mary and Stephen Livermore; his father, Tex Simms; sister and brother-in-law, Elizabeth and Ralph Neri; niece and nephew, Carmella and Richard Neri; and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Outgoing and flamboyant to the end, from drag queen to leather queen, Kevin had done it all. We all love and will never forget you. You have a place in our hearts forever. ▼

Peter Harold Shore

Dec. 25, 1951 - May 9, 1995

After a long battle with AIDS, Peter Shore died peacefully in his sleep May 9.

His mother, Paula Shore Billet, and his devoted friend, Bo Ayres, were at his side.

Peter is survived by his lover, Javier Echevarria; his beloved parrot, Xochitl; and a large family of siblings and friends who loved him deeply.

A poet whose raging soul sought calm in the wild, Peter will be remembered in the cool shade of every sequoia, in the bright flash of every red-winged blackbird's flight, and in the eternal dance of the waters at Goats Rock Beach where the Russian River meets the Pacific Ocean.

Peter and his family took much comfort in the wonderful care provided by the staff and volunteers at Coming Home Hospice. Donations in his memory may be made to Coming Home Hospice, 115 Diamond Street, SF, CA 94114. ▼

Chuck Haynes

March 23, 1939 - April 14, 1995

Chuck died peacefully on the evening of April 14 at the Zen Hospice, where he moved three weeks before.

Prior to that he was cared for lovingly at home for over six months by his longtime partner, Greg Patterson.

Chuck made San Francisco his home when he moved here from Riverside, California, in 1973. He was a gentle man and a gentleman, a man of many talents, and many friends. He was kind to everyone and generous to a fault. To know him was to love him. He will be greatly missed by a host of friends from coast to coast, but especially by his partner of 11 years, Greg.

Although there was no memorial service, a celebration of Chuck's life will be held on Saturday evening, May 27, at his home. Please call Greg at 221-5830 for details. ▼

Donald M. Heggstad

May 6, 1995

Donald M. Heggstad, 48, died peacefully May 6. A resident of San Francisco for over 20 years, he will be missed by many, as he was a source of inspiration and support to those in recovery from substance abuse.

Prior to his illness, Don was a longtime employee of the St. Anthony Foundation, where he used his strength, both physical and spiritual, in the service of the poor and elderly. He lived by his principles and sense of justice, and was a true friend.

Don was born and raised on a farm in Starbuck, Minnesota. He leaves his mother and father, Celia and Melvin; sisters and brother, Jean, Ruth Ann and Mark; and many friends, all of whom are grateful for his presence in the world.

Donations in Don's memory may be made to the Zen Hospice Project, 273 Page Street, San Francisco, CA 94102. ▼

Curt Bennett

May 6, 1957 - April 17, 1995

Curt Bennett, 37, of Los Angeles passed away April 17 after a 5-1/2 year battle with AIDS.

Curt was born in Salt Lake City. He graduated from high school in 1975 as a member of the National Honor Society. He then served a two-year mission in Guadalajara, Mexico, for the Mormon Church. He returned home to attend Brigham Young University, where he graduated magna cum laude in 1981.

In 1982 Curt moved to L.A. After working in the investment banking industry for six years, he changed professions to become a bilingual elementary school teacher. He recently received the honor of having the school auditorium named after him for his dedication and devotion to teaching.

Curt's other life passions included the theatre, traveling, and getting together with friends and family. He is survived by his longtime companion, Art Loya; his parents, Keith and Barbara Bennett; brothers, Cory, Gary and Mike; sister-in-law, Susan; and nephew, Milo.

Curt will forever be missed by all those who were blessed to have known him. I love you my BASO, and I'm looking forward to seeing you again. ▼

Bill Henderson (aka Bill Bummer)

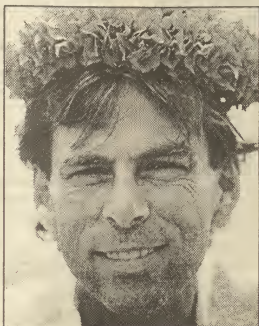
1938-1995

Bill Bummer died of AIDS in Fresno April 19. Anyone hanging out on Polk Street in the '60s would remember him - the one with the bluebirds tattooed on his tits!

He worked at the Grubstake, Busby's and the Barracks, and drove a Model A pickup until a wealthy matron replaced it with a 1946 Rolls Royce.

In 1969, Bill's face appeared on the cover of *Life Magazine* for an article called "Homosexuality in America" - a demeaning look at the new gay liberation movement. Bill and his best friend, Don Collins, were definitely liberated cover girls. In 1971 they "streaked" the Stud, running naked the full length of the bar, until Don hit his head on a rafter and passed out.

In 1980, Bill returned to his home town, bought a home, and got a job in a hospital pharmacy dispensing drugs - an occupation for which he was well-qualified. Bill was buried in Fresno and given a military funeral befitting his rank. Unfortunately, the Rolls was unable to serve as the family car, as Bill had misplaced the engine! If you have stories to share or wish to send condolences to his supportive family, give Bill Trumbo a call at 648-7312. ▼



William (Bill) Kruse

Local Interior Decorator
Died May 5, 1995

Born in Sacramento on February 24, 1940

Lived in San Francisco most of his life

Asks that his friends stop and smell the roses

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Fashion Impairment

by Michael C. Botkin

I have gone through nearly 20 years as a gay man despite a nearly insurmountable handicap: I am fashion-impaired. It took me some time to fully realize just how bad I had it, or how important it was, but I finally got the message. Being a gay man and being fashion-impaired is like trying to be gay while hating Judy Garland (which I also do) — it's possible, but it's not easy.

I'm one of those unfortunates whose mother dressed him for high school. I just didn't care what I wore or, for that matter, what others wore. Certainly such external fixtures were a poor indication of a person's true worth? (One could also argue that such external fixtures are a sign of what the underlying person is like, but I was at that time blind to this.) However, I gradually came to realize that this was not the majority opinion on the matter and that others were intensely interested in what we were all wearing.

Having conceded that fashion was important to some, if not most, people still left me at sea as to what was fashionable and what was not. I just lacked that fifth sense that most people seem to have some of.

This was not without its pay-

offs. For one thing, I got completely through high school without ever being seriously accused of being a fag, despite plenty of evidence toward that conclusion. It was simply too impossible to consider someone as unfashionable as myself a potential homosexual. Being fashion-impaired is a great way to pass as straight.

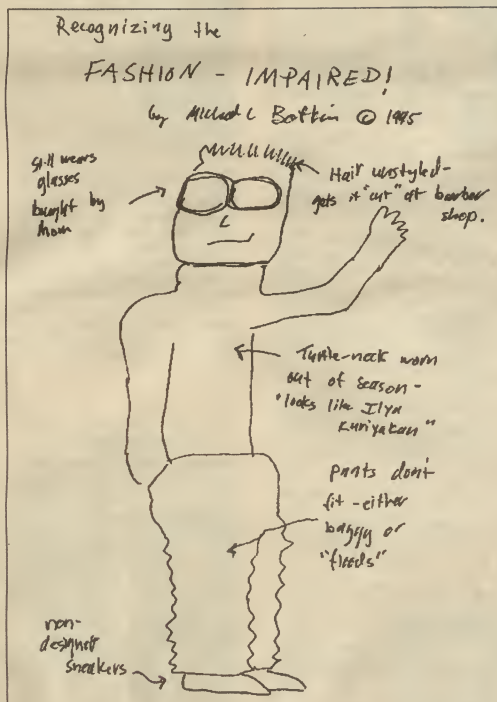
Of course, that advantage

Commentary

faded when I came out at age 20 and began to go to gay environments and bars. There my inability to dress fashionably came uncomfortably to the fore. You can get away being dressed by your mom to go to school, but not to go to a gay bar. My mom's goals for me, fashion-wise, didn't include picking up men, which had become my primary concern. I had to make some sort of change.

Grunge style

I had enough sense not to try and become a fashion plate. I have seen some fashion-impaired people try that approach, and it isn't pretty. They go out and spend a fortune on designer clothes, and carefully match their wardrobes to the ads they see in the slick maga-



zines. Alas, those ads are terribly misleading, and the whole effect tends to be subtly, horri-

bly off. They look just as unfashionable as before, but they've spent a lot of money and given away that they want to be fashionable — and can't.

Instead I went for the grunge look, though this was long before grunge became an official fashion option. Torn jeans, a tattered T-shirt, beat-up sneakers: these conveyed a sense of appropriate fashion insensitivity ("I can't be bothered with such trivialities") while still looking relatively attractive by contemporary gay standards.

If I'd had even a little fashion sense, I might have tried the butch clone style that was then coming into vogue. It doesn't take much talent to dress like one of the Village People, and the uniform was so standardized that even a hopeless nerd like me could aspire to it. But it didn't appeal to me, and besides, even clone style is something of an art and I doubted (with good reason) whether I was equal to it.

Eventually, despite my handicap, I got a boyfriend, and now he dresses me instead of my mom; a significant improvement. A fashion-impaired person soon learns not to take offense when their partner asks, in a tentative voice, if you're really going to wear that shirt with those pants. At this point I just ask what he'd recommend instead. There's no percentage in protesting, since you'll only end up looking the worse if you win.

Of course, this method of compensation only works if one partner in the couple has a decent fashion sense. If both members of the couple are fashion-impaired, they will only tend to reinforce each other's pathology. A fashion-impaired gay man is in trouble: a fashion-impaired gay couple is well on its way to complete ostracism or, assuming their friends put up with their little quirk, constant ongoing commentary on their looks.

Wholesale appropriation

One way out of this dilemma has been offered by the AIDS epidemic; namely, the wholesale appropriation of a recently dead friend's wardrobe. Although the deceased has taken their fashion sense with them to the great beyond, they've left their extensive collection of clothing behind to benefit their less well-dressed surviving brethren.

I discovered this a few years ago when my best friend Andy died. My partner and I had flown out to Chicago to say good-bye and help him depart this vale of tears, but hadn't thought about dressing up for his memorial, though it was obvious (or should have been: I was in my usual AIDS denial) that he wasn't going to be alive when we left.

So he died on a Tuesday, and to my surprise, the memorial was scheduled for that Friday, just before we'd jet off for home. I was slated to give the eulogy, and I didn't have a thing to wear other than my typical, fashion-impaired civilian clothes (jeans, button-down oxfords and sneakers).

Fortunately, my state of AIDS-related wasting had reduced me to the point where I fit Andy's clothes perfectly. I put on his nice boots (already broken in!), some decent slacks, one of his best shirts and his watch, and sailed off to give my speech. I did notice a few odd looks from some of his co-workers, who recognized the clothes and watch, but overall I looked marvelous.

Afterwards, morbidly sorting through Andy's belongings, I claimed most of his wardrobe. Andy, unlike me, had a very solid fashion sense — he was director of design at the local historical society, which requires a professional level of fashion awareness. He cared more about how he looked, had more money to spend on it, and had better taste than me to boot. On every particular, I found his wardrobe superior to my own.

The resulting influx of decent shirts went a long way to undoing the worst effects of my own fashion-improvement. I haven't scored so big since, although I did get a whole bunch of decent shoes from another recent departure. Shoes are good to inherit because they're already broken in, and if you're the right size, this amounts to a considerable advantage.

I don't believe that survivor rights to dead PWA wardrobes is the answer to the dilemma of fashion impairment among gay men. But it's at least a partial corrective, like having a lover to check you before you go out on the streets and embarrass yourself.

Please, next time you're about to make a bitchy remark about some evil queen's outfit, stop to consider whether or not they suffer from fashion impairment and can't really help themselves. We don't want to be uncool; we just can't help ourselves! Let's have a little compassion for those of us who just can't seem to get the right look, who are, alas, fashion-impaired. ▼

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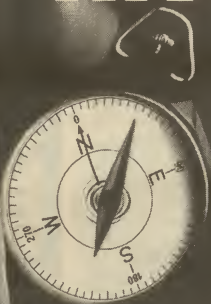
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THE SAN FRANCISCO AIDS FOUNDATION

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LEGAL NOTICES

RFP #DSS-101

City and County of San Francisco
Department of Social Services Request for Proposals
 Establish and staff an Ombuds Office that will investigate, respond to and resolve client and foster parent grievances in the Family and Children's Services Division.

Contract Terms: 8/1/95-6/30/96

Amount: \$60,000. RFP issued May 10, due June 6

Contact: Daisy Gordon, D203, D.S.S.,
 PO Box 7988, SF CA 94120 Telephone: (415) 557-5865

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 147830

The following person has abandoned the use of the fictitious business name as LUMORE VALET PARKING CO., at 478 Green Street, San Francisco, CA 94133. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on February 12, 1991.

Name and address of registrant: KAZIM Y. KOLCAK, 287 St. Francis Blvd., Daily City, CA 94015. This business was conducted by an individual. Signed: KAZIM Y. KOLCAK.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco County on the date May 08, 1995 Bruce H. Jamison, County Clerk-Recorder, by Keith Wong.

May 11, 18, 25, 1995, June 1, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 195489

The following person(s) are doing business as SPLASH RESEARCH, 552 Roosevelt H. Way, San Francisco, CA 94114; ANDREW R. MACBRIDE, 552 Roosevelt H. Way, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed ANDREW R. MACBRIDE. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 08, 1995.

May 18, 25, 1995, June 1, 8, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 195529

The following person(s) are doing business as GREEN FISH TRADING, 2160 Steiner Street, San Francisco, CA 94115; ANDREW R. MACBRIDE, 2160 Steiner Street, San Francisco, CA 94115. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed DANIEL P. BLACKBURN. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 10, 1995.

May 18, 25, 1995, June 1, 8, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 195592

The following person(s) are doing business as PROFESSIONAL COMPUTER CONSULTANTS, 560 Powell Street, Apt #602, San Francisco, CA 94108; DEIDRA KAY DePREE, 560 Powell Street, Apt #602, San Francisco, CA 94108 and JULI GEISER, 45 Mars Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by co-partners. Signed DEIDRA DePREE. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 11, 1995.

May 18, 25, 1995, June 1, 8, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 195591

The following person(s) are doing business as FIX IT WITH A SMILE MAINTANCE, 5235 Diamond Heights, #114, San Francisco, CA 94131; BILL HULBUNT, 5235 Diamond Heights, #114, San Francisco, CA 94131. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed BILL HULBUNT. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 11, 1995.

May 18, 25, 1995, June 1, 8, 1995.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 958743

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of JASON BRODERSEN for change of name, the application of JASON BRODERSEN for change of name, having been filed in Court, and appearing from said application that JASON TODD BRODERSEN has filed an application proposing that name be changed to JASON DERICKSON BRODERSEN. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before the Court in Department X-4 on the 22nd day of JUNE 1995, at 3:00 o'clock am of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the Bay Area Reporter a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated the 2ND day of May, 1995.

May 18, 25, 1995, June 1, 8, 1995

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

To Whom It May Concern: JWEINAT, Han is (are) applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at 1007 1/2 Valencia Street, San Francisco, CA 94110 with as a Sale Beer & Wine Eating Place license(s).

Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control
 185 Berry Street, Suite 5600
 San Francisco, CA 94107

May 4, 11, 18, 1995.

April 27, 1995, May 4, 11, 18, 1995.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 958802

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of ANDREW FRANK D'AMBRUOSO, JR., aka ANDY D'AMBRUOSO for change of name, the application of ANDREW D'AMBRUOSO, aka ANDY D'AMBRUOSO for change of name, having been filed in Court, and appearing from said application that ANDREW FRANK D'AMBRUOSO, aka ANDY D'AMBRUOSO has filed an application proposing that name be changed to ANDREW FRANK LECLAIR. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before the Court in Department one on the 30th day of May 1995, at 8:45 o'clock am of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the Bay Area Reporter a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated the 17th day of April, 1995.

April 27, 1995, May 4, 11, 18, 1995

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 195142

The following person(s) are doing business as 1) KATE O'BRIEN'S IRISH BAR & RESTAURANT, 2) BEWLEY'S COFFEE, 3) DIRTY NELLY'S, 579 Howard Street, San Francisco, CA 94105; GRACE O'MALLEY'S LTD., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, 579 Howard Street, San Francisco, CA 94105. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of April 01, 1995. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed COLETTE O'BRIEN. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on April 25, 1995.

May 4, 11, 18, 25, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 195178

The following person(s) are doing business as MCCARTHY ELECTRIC, 1053 Bush Street, #1, San Francisco, CA 94109; PAUL W. MCCARTHY, 1053 Bush Street, #1, San Francisco, CA 94109. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed PAUL MCCARTHY. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on April 26, 1995.

May 4, 11, 18, 25, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 195393

The following person(s) are doing business as B.B.R., INTERNATIONAL COMPANY, 1731 Yellow Stone Avenue, Milpitas, CA 95035; HONG HAI GAO, 1731 Yellow Stone Avenue, Milpitas, CA 95035. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of May 04, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed HONG HAI GAO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 04, 1995.

May 11, 18, 25, 1995, June 1, 1995.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 195211

The following person(s) are doing business as WORLDWIDE TRAVEL WEST, 42 Scotia Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94124; KIMBERLY SKELLEY-MARTIN, 42 Scotia Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94124. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of April 27, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed KIMBERLY SKELLEY-MARTIN. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on April 27, 1995.

May 4, 11, 18, 25, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 195122

The following person(s) are doing business as THE COFFEE NET, 744 Harrison Street, San Francisco, CA 94107-1235; RICHARD COUTURE, 744 Harrison Street, San Francisco, CA 94107-1235 and THOMAS VERELLEY, Jordan Avenue, El Cerrito, CA 94530. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by co-partners. Signed RICHARD COUTURE. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on April 25, 1995.

May 4, 11, 18, 25, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 195081

The following person(s) are doing business as ALTERNATIVE COMMUNICATIONS, 1037 Broderick Street, San Francisco, CA 94115; GERARD ALAN MANDEL, 355 Buena Vista E., #516W, San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of April 24, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed G. A. MANDEL. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on April 24, 1995.

May 4, 11, 18, 25, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 195280

The following person(s) are doing business as POOF A SALON, 930 Bush Street, San Francisco, CA 94108; CLYDE MARK THOMAS, 701 Hearst Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94131. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of May 01, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed CLYDE MARK THOMAS. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 01, 1995.

May 4, 11, 18, 25, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 195278

The following person(s) are doing business as PETE'S TOURS, 4408 18th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114; PETER S. GREENE, 4408 18th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of April 1, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed PETER S. GREENE. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 01, 1995.

May 11, 18, 25, 1995, June 1, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 195278

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B.A.R. CLASSIFIEDS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 195283

The following person(s) are doing business as MASSAGE BY JULEA, One St. Francis Place, #1003, San Francisco, CA 94107; LEA LAVATIA ALETTI, One St. Francis Place, #1003, San Francisco, CA 94107. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed LEA LAVATIA ALETTI. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 01, 1995.

May 11, 18, 25, 1995, June 1, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 195305

The following person(s) are doing business as GDW, 324 Arguello #1, San Francisco, CA 94118; CLINT P. GOLDMAN, 324 Arguello #1, San Francisco, CA 94118; MARK A.Z. DIPPE, 539 Fourteenth Avenue #4, San Francisco, CA 94118; STEPHEN WILLIAMS, 6 Hampton Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94069. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of May 01, 1995. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Signed CLINT P. GOLDMAN. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 02, 1995.

May 11, 18, 25, 1995, June 1, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 195348

The following person(s) are doing business as BOOO INTERNATIONAL, 421 O'Farrell Street, Suite C3-4, San Francisco, CA 94102; SAU YIU CHAN, 321 Pimlico Drive, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of May 01, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed SAU YIU CHAN. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 03, 1995.

May 11, 18, 25, 1995, June 1, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 195278

The following person(s) are doing business as PETE'S TOURS, 4408 18th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114; PETER S. GREENE, 4408 18th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of April 1, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed PETER S. GREENE. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 01, 1995.

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The following person(s) are doing business as PETE'S TOURS, 4408 18th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114; P

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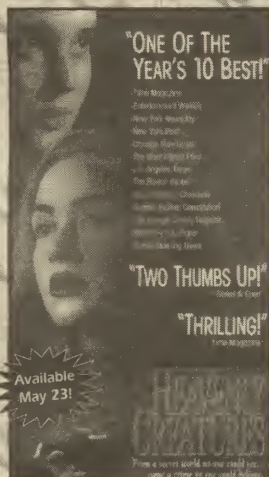
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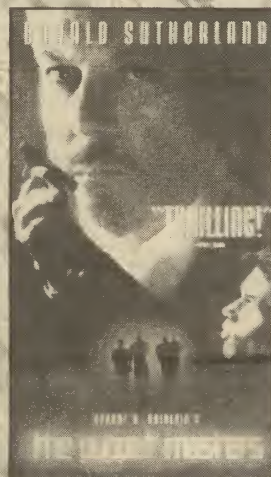
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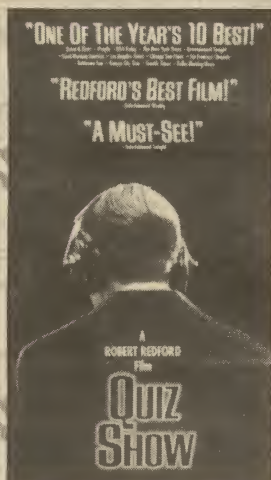
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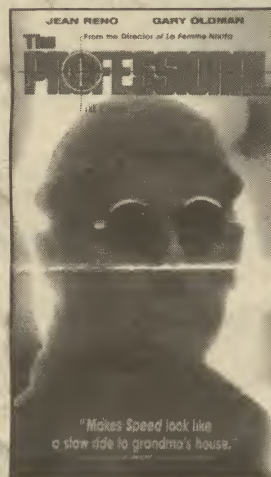
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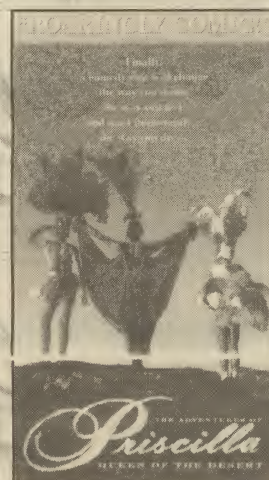
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Melissa Etheridge

Lesbians Go Ga-Ga At Melissa's Dance Party

by Mary Ann Swissler

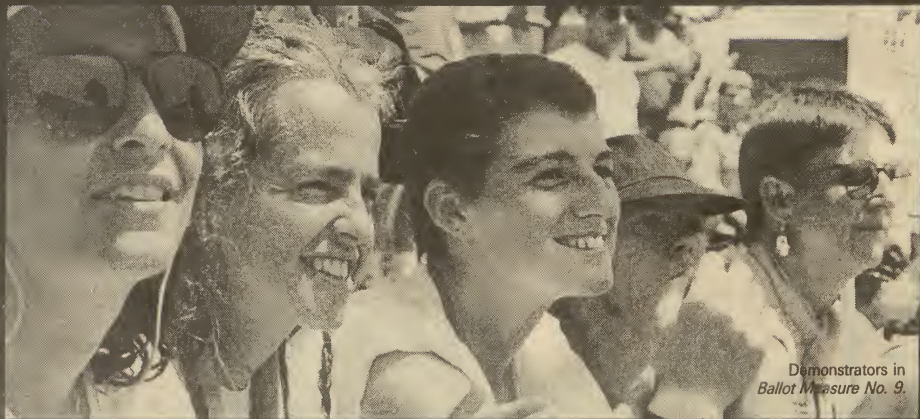
The sky above Shoreline Amphitheater was lit up Saturday night by a full moon and the unmistakable rhapsody of America's premier crossover artist, Melissa Etheridge. It was the seventh stop on her 38-concert "Yes I Am" tour.

The two-hour show was like being inside a happiness bubble filled with great music you've never heard before. At the Shoreline, Etheridge illustrated why she continues to create new standards for performers to reach for. Like many on the music scene today, she synthesizes rock 'n' roll and CW, but Etheridge has that extra unmistakable ingredient that makes her sound utterly unique.

Continued on page 32

Heather McDonald's 'Ballot Measure 9' Fear and Loathing in Oregon

by Marianne Dresser

Demonstrators in
Ballot Measure No. 9.

For queers and other "marginal" constituencies, the 1992 elections and Clinton's victory offered the hope of a return to sanity and the re-establishment of egalitarian democratic principles in government office.

Three years later, and a whole lot of high hopes deferred, a compelling documentary of one specific struggle appears to remind us that the battle to preserve civil rights is far from won. Heather McDonald's *Ballot Measure 9* (plays the Castro Theatre May 22-25) is a cogent,

clear, and moving account of the hard work, determination, and moral courage of the Oregonians who stood their ground against a powerful fundamentalist Christian assault on lesbian and gay civil rights. The film's straight-ahead documentary style lets the story unfold like the high drama that it is. *Ballot Measure 9* burns with energy and conviction.

The film takes us right into the belly of the beast: meetings of the Oregon Citizens' Alliance, a born-again Christian group led by Lou

Mabon, dedicated to "the battle between good and evil" — so-called "Christians" vs. "less than human" homosexuals seeking "special rights." OCA's virulent fear- and hate-driven rhetoric fueled a well-executed, highly organized campaign for ballot measure 9, which defined homosexuality as "abnormal, wrong, unnatural, and perverse," and sought to institutionalize discrimination in housing, employment, and access to public services on the basis of sexual orientation.

Continued on page 36

Nicole Parker and Laurel Holloman in
The Incredibly True Adventure of Two Girls in Love.

Something for Everybody

Increased Number of Lesbian Pics, Films From Latin America and Spain Reveal Queer Diversity in 19th L/G Film Festival

by Robert Julian

A curious pall hung over last week's press conference announcing the upcoming San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. Although the theme of this year's festival is "Let's have some fun," thoughts tended to stray to Mark Finch, the late Frameline director who remains present in his absence. Finch was a charmer,

and a real pro. He is sorely missed.

I'll imagine Finch overseeing the usual hysteria, in absentia, when the big opening night party takes over the Castro on June 9. That night, there'll be two film debuts: Maria Maggenti's *The Incredibly True Adventure of Two Girls in Love* (6:30 p.m.) and Barry Shils' *Wigstock: The Movie* (10:30 p.m.)

Continued on page 34

THEATRE

Chad Jones
reviews
'Beyond
Bagdad'

page 32



MUSIC

Adams/Jordan
collaboration
less than
thrilling

page 35

BOOKS

Garland Kyle
on Neil
Miller's 'Out of
the Past'

page 37

INSIDE

Out There..... 30
BarTalk..... 40
Calendar..... 42
Mr. Marcus.... 44
Personals..... 46

OUT THERE

by Justin Zane
and U. Gomez Tang

High (and low) Energy Physics: Performance artist, singer, composer, *Playboy* centerfold **Phoebe Legere** is a human cyclotron: she takes all manner of disparate elements, throws them together and, out of the collision of their particulars, creates new and mesmerizing things. A typical stage show will find Phoebe, a **Hedy Lamarr** lookalike, combining elements of **George Gershwin** and **Edith Piaf** with **Jerry Lee Lewis**. Tawdry, camp shenanigans commingle with high art as Phoebe spews out monologues on **Noel Coward** while playing an accordion in a sequined miniskirt. Yodeling and growling are not out of the question. At **Freddy's Supper Club** in New York, one of this shooting star's principal launching pads, irreverence was her specialty as she'd croon **Jacques Brel** and **Cole Porter** and then switch gears to negotiate ditties about her sweet mum and the "S and M freaks in our audience."

She sounds like a bit of a freak herself, this Phoebe Legere. For how else does

one explain a classically-trained musician with a four-octave vocal range who plays the piano with one leg clamped behind her head? Well, she *has* written an opera, **establishment hogs** remind, but the subject of said vocal work is a 350-pound domestic who becomes President of the United States. (Phoebe gives new meaning to the term grand opera.)

In a recent phone interview from her New York studio, Phoebe gave me her m.o.: I hung on for dear life while a disarmingly sweet, high voice took me for a wild ride: "My art is about a search for a kind of total art. It's total art synthesis, an attempt to reunite the art forms that were separated in the 18th century when a fragmentation occurred in which creative people got assigned into different categories: some were called musicians, others became visual artists and so on. I'm attempting to *redefine* artists in a kind of unified field theory of art. I'm trying to do in the arts what the new physics is attempting to do with concepts of hyperspace and unified string theory: they're talking about ten dimensions that incorporate time and space and gravity into a fluid idea of

time and reality. What I'm doing in art is parallel to what scientists are doing in high energy physics. Art and physics are always parallel in terms of discovery even if they don't say the same things to each other. My performances then are a kind of worm hole in which you can peer into my universe and see what's happening to my sexuality as I evoke and transform the past through the *now*, and in doing so transfigure human pain into something that gives exciting aesthetic pleasure."

Or something like that: You can experience Phoebe's New Physics at Eichelberger's starting the 18th and running through May 28. Or you can experience a one-time only SF performance of her hit show *Shame, Depravity and Lesbianism in the Twilight of a Dying Civilization* at the glamorous Club Confidential on May 20 at 9 p.m. Confidential's number is 252-8634; Eichelberger's is 863-4177.

Take Her Down A Notch: Have you seen (or read) the book *Model* by **Michael Gross**? Geez, Michael, honey, we can tell no one really wanted to talk to you, so just get over yourself. Despite the high tone you assume in these pages, I don't think you'll be going to dinner at **John Casablancas'** house anytime soon. Now about those aesthetics: Why is it, darling, that all the pictures of people in your book — and there are frightfully few — are covered up with hair? Why is there hair all over **Jerry Hall's** face and **Paulina's** face? Sweetie darling couldn't you find better pictures of these gorgeous women? And why couldn't you find one picture of **Grace Jones**? She was only influencing the world of fashion and music as far back as 1975. Get a clue.

RuWatch: On May 25 the USA Network will air *A Mother's Prayer*, the true story of **Rosemary Holmstrom**, who, before she died of AIDS in the early '90s, arranged for her child's adoption into a foster home. The film underscores the dilemma of dying parents who want to know the families to whom their children will be sent after they've passed on. This is a very real problem as statistics indicate some 4 million children will be orphaned because of AIDS by the turn of the century. On a lighter note, queers will want to tune in to see dragster



Phoebe Legere: electronuclear device

RuPaul playing a counselor — out of drag. **Linda Hamilton**, **Kate Nelligan** and **Bruce Dern** co-star.

Photographer **Rick Gerharter** has just returned from Cuba with *Queers for Cuba*, an organization that arranges trips to the island nation for queer Americans and raises funds for that country's lavender cause. According to Rick, *Strawberry and Chocolate*, the celebrated flick about a fortysomething gay man who falls for an appallingly handsome (and young) Cuban man, is still playing in Havana. "It's generally understood," said Gerharter, that "this is the most seen movie in the history of Cuba's cinema. I think the film's tolerance [for difference] has struck a nerve with the Cuban people and opened up a discussion about homosexuality in Cuba that wasn't there before."

Gerharter also said, "people in Cuba want official recognition from the government. And the gov-

ernment is reluctant to grant it, not so much because of homophobia, but because the government in Cuba is pluralistic — they don't have division in society. I think they're afraid of creating divisions by granting such recognition. Of course, there's also an element of homophobia."

Gerharter indicated that in addition to recognition for homosexuals, other things in short supply in Cuba include drag queen supplies: "Oh you know, glue for nails, eyebrow pencils, bustiers, that sort of thing," the photographer purred. "Books are also in demand." If you'd like to pass along a wig or two, or maybe that second copy of **Michelangelo Signorile's** *Queer in America*, send it to: *Queers for Cuba*, 3543 18th St., Box 33, S.F. 94110.

Couple of the week: **Prince** and **Veronica Webb**. Hey Prince, we know what you like. Remember, tell her you *glove* her. ▼

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Priscilla Rides Again

Last year's gender-bending smash hit *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* will be shown at the Castro Theatre on Saturday, May 20 (9 p.m.) as part of a star-studded special benefit gala for TARC, the Tenderloin AIDS Resource Center. The evening will be hosted by fabulous local comic **Joan Jett Blakk** and will include a sing-along screening of the film, a drag competition, celebrity judges plus door and raffle prizes. A post-*Priscilla* party follows at DNA Lounge, 375 11th St. Show-stopper **Pussy Torette** will be the guest star. Tickets for the film are \$15 if you get them in advance, \$20 at the door. Tickets for the party are \$10. For more information, call 241-8880. As adjunct to this special benefit, RAM Studios will present an exhibit of **Elise Lockwood's** celebrated photos shot on location during the filming of *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*. RAM Studios is at 4077 A 18th St. Call 558-9564. ▼



Photo: Gramercy Pictures

'You Gotta Give 'Em Hope' The Political Harvey

by Jerry Metzker

James Patrick Kennedy's new solo show at Josie's, *You Gotta Give 'Em Hope: Harvey Milk in His Own Words*, is a compilation of speeches, letters and interviews given by the late San Francisco supervisor and gay activist.

Scrupulously researched and enacted, it's a portrait of the man who was at one time the most famous openly gay person in the country.

Under Danny Scheie's lively direction, this piece succeeds both as history and theatre. And, as we might expect, it lacks nothing in political edge.

You Gotta Give 'Em Hope begins with a short recording: Kennedy as Milk making a tape which is to be played only upon his death by assassination. It's a gentle, if painful, reminder that Milk's life was cut short when he was murdered in City Hall by Dan White in November 1978.

A moment later, the piece whips back in time to the beginning of Milk's distinguished military career (which ended with a dishonorable discharge for being homosexual), then breezes through his stint as a New York investment broker, traverses a love affair (through letters) with Joe Campbell, and comes to rest with Milk's eventual move to San Francisco, where he found his "home" in the Castro.

It's hard to capture a person as charismatic and eloquent as Milk, who, in a relatively short period of time, propelled the gay rights movement from the sidelines to the headlines. Yet

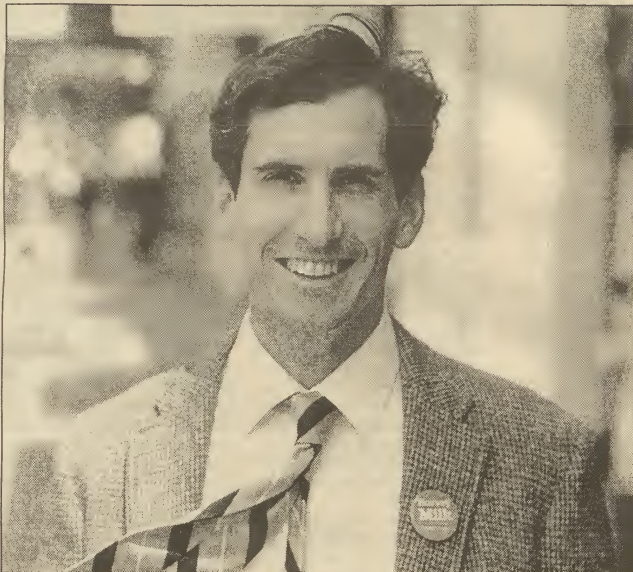
Kennedy pulls it off — and in a scant 75 minutes. To do this, the writer/performer sacrifices Milk's personal life, which is understandable, for had he gone into that, it would have shifted the focus from the Milk that Kennedy is trying to present, the political Milk, the man who rallied both gays and straights to claim San Francisco for themselves.

Above all, Kennedy's energetic, direct performance is inspirational. Again and again, Kennedy's Milk calls for action. In a world where gay rights are not fully recognized, passivity and complacency are unacceptable.

The performance's climax finds Kennedy standing in the balcony at Josie's delivering the speech that Milk gave in Dallas in 1978: "You gotta give 'em hope," Milk says. "There are closeted gay teenagers in dangerous situations all over the country, hearing again and again about the 'evil' of homosexuals. For them and for those who are not closeted gays but fed the same lies, all gay people must come out of the closet. Only then will the truth be accessible to all, and only then will so many lives be saved."

For the uninformed, *You Gotta Give 'Em Hope* is a lesson in history and activism. For the informed, it's a refreshing reminder of what gays can do. For both, it is a respectful look into the soul of a hero. ▼

■ **You Gotta Give 'Em Hope runs through June 4 at Josie's Cabaret. Call 861-7933 for tickets and information.**



James Patrick Kennedy

Photo: Daniel Nicoletta

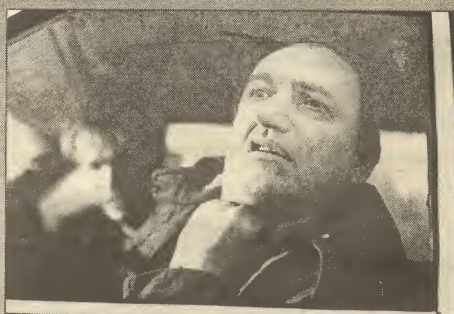


Photo: Krzysztof Kieslowski

Hard Living

Oscar-nominated Polish director Krzysztof Kieslowski recently achieved fame in the West with his trilogy *Blue, White and Red*. In 1989, however, his *The Dekalog*, 10 "modern morality tales inspired [loosely] by the Ten Commandments," caused a sensation at the Venice Film Festival. These approximately hour-long films about the denizens of a Warsaw apartment complex, originally done for Polish TV, displayed a morose, darkly comic and always unrelenting vision that captured in often harrowing detail their director's view of them as "just a look at how difficult it is to live." Arguably Kieslowski's masterwork, *The Dekalog* is strikingly simple and straightforward (albeit not always terribly "cinematic"), creating with an admirable economy of means a world that is both startlingly genuine and hauntingly dreamy, gritty and glorious. What a pity that Kieslowski has decided to grace the screen no more. *The Dekalog* plays the Roxie May 19-May 29. Call 431-3611 for more information. ▼

— Patrick D. Hoctel

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'Beyond Bagdad' Attack of the Killer Debs

by Chad Jones

It's hard to believe that any show could live up to self-promotion like a "dykie musical about wayward women, devilish debs and a butch with a badge," but *Beyond Bagdad*, the new hit at Theatre Rhinoceros, does just that.

Rambunctious and whimsical, *Beyond Bagdad* is community theater in the truest and best sense of the word: the lesbian community may be the primary focus, but the real star of the show is small town San Francisco in all its quirky, self-satisfied glory — from neighborhood foibles to pokes at politicians to gender role bashing.

Great acting and great singing might not be present at every moment, but the lack of polish somehow adds to the charm and down-home feel that prevails throughout. Big laughs from the romantic farce plot, combined with sprightly musical numbers featuring familiar tunes fitted with new lyrics, make *Bagdad* a real San Francisco theater treat.

Written with great comedic flair by Pamela Forrest and Doug Holsclaw, *Bagdad* never pretends to be anything but an old-fashioned variety show — the kind college kids used to put on to show off their cleverness and to bond with their classmates. In

Bagdad, the "college kids" are a likable group of eight women and one man (who spends almost the entire time in full drag) whose lives are caught up in a swirl of lesbian lust with a dash of middlebrow bigotry thrown in to keep things dramatic.

Lipstick debs

The action begins in North Beach when Jodie Houston, visiting from Bagdad, Kentucky, is left stranded by Cecil, her fiancé. Distraught, she narrowly escapes, becoming jaywalking road kill when ultra-butch, ultra-cute Officer Buffy Cantrell steps in to save the unwitting tourist. It's love at first sight for Buffy and Jodie (wink, wink, hello *Family Affair*), but we still have an hour and a half to wait for the sexually confused Jodie to figure out that she's really a repressed dyke.

Mysteriously appearing as virginal Jodie's guide through the liberating streets of San Francisco is Cissy (where's Mr. French?), a member of the transvestite community, who guides the innocent into the arms of her loving cop and ultimately reveals a none-too-surprising secret. Along the way, our dynamic duo must resist the influence of Ditsy, Skitsy and Titsy, ultra-femme debutantes whose goal is to shave, bikini

wax, and otherwise de-dyke the world's lesbian population.

In Forrest and Holsclaw's hands, the silliness is inspired, with laughs coming from every angle. Crisis after crisis comes and goes, including a deb attack on a k.d. lang concert, jealous ex-lovers reappearing, and a deb-planted douche bomb that explodes in a vibrator boutique. Having survived the latter, Officer Buffy swaggers in and says, "It'll take more than springtime freshness to take me out."

Titsy is honorary queen

Director Adele Prandini ensures that her amiable cast makes the most out of the big humor. It would be difficult to pick the biggest ham in the cast, but the winner has to be Erin-Kate Whitcomb as Titsy, the head deb. With her creative flair for evil doings and bitchy attitude toward those less perfect than herself, Titsy could be a gay man, and in Whitcomb's astute portrayal, that's exactly what she acts like. The result is nothing short of hilarious. Whitcomb is a wonderfully daffy comedian. She is ably assisted by her fellow debs Trish Adair and Bird McCargar, whose performances aren't as big as Whitcomb's but are pleasurable nonetheless.

As the star-crossed lovers,



Photo: Savage Photography

P.A. Cooley (left) and Michele LeCaste in *Beyond Bagdad*.

Monica Grant as Buffy the cop and Michele LeCaste as Jodie the virgin are completely charming. Grant is especially funny with her stalwart heroics. When she swoops in to save Jodie from the oncoming traffic, somehow the victim ends up safely on the police officer's knee. P.A. Cooley brings a dash of Peggy Lee to his drag performance as Cissy, and it's a big compliment to say he fits in beautifully as one of the girls.

The joke-laden script and over-the-top performances are made positively effervescent by the music. Musical Director Scrumby Koldewyn, who seems highly amused by all the goings on from his stage right

perch, provides accompaniment with personality. The old chestnut "San Francisco (Flowers In Your Hair)" sounds new with lyrics like, "There's a whole generation who like same sex stimulation."

An unabashed crowd pleaser (opening night audiences nearly stomped holes through the theater floor), *Beyond Bagdad* is a wellspring of womanly whimsy and is best described by one of the evil debs as "speeding down the homo highway with no brakes." ▼

■ *Beyond Bagdad* continues at Theatre Rhinoceros through June 10. Call 861-5079 for information.

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MUSIC

Melissa

Continued from cover

The woman with the whiskey-tinged voice walked on stage and began with tightly wrapped sets of hits and lesser-known gems. A loose version of "Ain't It Heavy?" started things off and was followed with "If I Only Wanted To." She and guitarist John Shanks, bassist Mark Browne, and drummer David Beyer then delivered a picture-perfect rendition of "Similar Features."

Throughout, Etheridge directed her spirited high energy towards the primarily lesbian crowd, though she often referred to the "mixed" crowd, meaning she'd observed that heterosexuals were along for the ride. During "Come To My Window" she stuck her fist straight up in the air to punctuate the line, "I don't care what they think. I don't care what they say."

The crowd Saturday was straight out of the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival, as evidenced by the unfurling of a large rainbow flag near the stage. Etheridge openly and warmly relished her female admirers and at one point began serenading the audience from the aisle separating the reserve

and general seating sections. Looking like a blonde Romeo in black jeans and leather jacket, Etheridge belted out three lesbian hugging songs, "Ain't It Heavy?", "I Will Never Be The Same," and from her new album, "All the Way to Heaven."

The only thing better would have been Melissa and her all-girl band. Still, John Shanks proved a virtuoso during the show, playing at least six guitars and keyboards. Bassist Mark Browne and drummer David Beyer provided the rest for an excellent, playful chemistry.

Halfway through the show, just after "Yes I Am," Etheridge and her band broke out into long jams, which turned out to be their strong suit. The rich and deeply felt emotions that live performances obviously evoke for Etheridge now became evident; at one point she laid down on the stage, nearly straddling her guitar to finish her portion of the song.

She emerged from this session with an capella "Dance Without Sleeping." Dykes and other women, who were suddenly transformed into Melissa Etheridge nuts, were on their feet for the remainder of the show. She surprised most of us by ending with AC/DC's "You Shook Me All Night Long." You sure did Melissa. ▼

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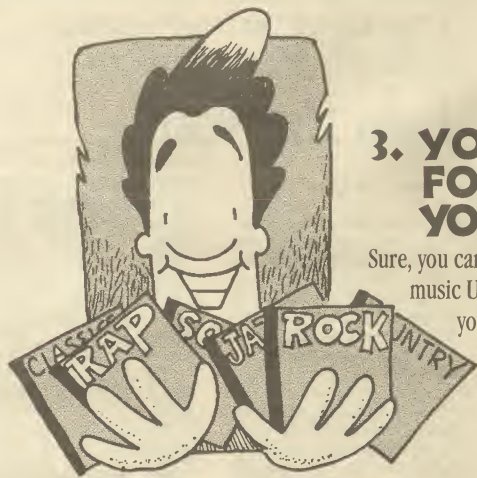
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Film Fest

Continued from cover

The smart money is on Maggenti's vaguely autobiographical lesbian love story. Although a mood of celebration may put *Wigstock* over the top, the reaction at a recent press screening was subdued. Surfing the Aqua Net may turn out to be a little less amusing than most anticipated. Nevertheless, any film that offers two Tallulah impersonators — The Dueling Bankheads — lip-synching "Born to be Wild" is bound to have its moments.

Now in its 19th year, the largest and most important gay film festival in the world has trimmed down in '95 to 229 titles. Of this total, 35 are feature-length films, and 11 of the features are by or about lesbians. The primary venues are the Victoria Theatre (2961 16th St.) and the Castro Theatre, with the Roxie dropped from this year's festival due to its small seating capacity. Last year, 90 percent of the screenings at the Roxie sold out, leaving many eager filmgoers unable to get tickets. The Victoria, just two blocks from the Roxie, almost doubles the Roxie's seating capacity.

Excellent docs

Last year's attempt to schedule screenings outside of San Francisco has been abandoned this year, but a change in ticketing procedures should keep non-SF residents from getting shut out of the action. Tickets are

now available at all BASS outlets throughout the Bay Area, including The Wherehouse and Tower Records/Video stores.

As always, I encourage everyone to see as many of the documentary features as possible. This year there are 22 to choose from, with several nations making contributions. Dutch filmmaker Claus Muller is represented with two films that tell of the persecution of homosexuals during the Holocaust (*We Were Marked With A Big A*) and of gay participation in the Dutch Underground (*After the War You Have to Tell Everyone About the Dutch Gay Resistance Fighters*). From former Iron Curtain countries, there's *After the Revolution*, which documents sexual repression in the former Czech Republic, and *Coming Out of the Iron Closet*, which offers a glimpse into the lives of sexually disenfranchised Soviets. Bay Area filmmaker Barbara Hammer takes a look at South Africa's gay life in *Out in South Africa*, and Aerlyn Weissman and Lynn Fernie (*Forbidden Love*) return with *Fiction and Other Truths: A Film About Jane Rule*.

The brilliant English filmmaker Terence Davies (*The Long Day Closes*) is represented by *The Terence Davies Trilogy*, three short black-and-white films made from 1976 through 1984. Davies' recreation of his own working-class upbringing in Northern England won't make you leave the theatre whistling, but his dark vision of human alienation is compelling.



Photo: Samuel Goldwyn Company

Lady Bunny, reigning diva of *Wigstock: the Movie*.

All about queer diversity

The festival's lighter fare, like the programs of short films compiled separately for lesbian and gay audiences, is always fun. And the surprise sneak view (June 15, Castro Theatre,

9:30 p.m.) is a consistently hot ticket — although, historically, these bookings have not always been winners. (Remember *Zero Patience*, the AIDS musical?)

Films from Spain and Latin America look particularly promising this year, but the one feature that most caught my eye is *Lie Down With Dogs* by

American director Wally White. A down-on-his-luck twentysomething queer boy leaves Manhattan looking for a gay houseboy gig in Provincetown. He finds ... well, you know what he finds. But actor Randy Becker and music by Madonna's favorite collaborator, Jellybean Benitez, suggest interesting possibilities.

As always, a single visit to the lesbian/gay film festival can result in laughter, tears, boredom, anger, frustration, or moments of incredible elation. But it's undeniably true that your appreciation of the lesbian/gay experience increases with the number of films you see in any given year. Homosexuals, despite the efforts of straight society to make us conform, simply don't look alike, think alike, dress alike, or behave alike. The diversity of queer talent and its international expression is what this festival is all about, and that is always cause for celebration. And although this year's special film fest tributes go to others, everyone knows (and the catalog confirms) that this one's for you, Mark. Too bad we'll no longer be seeing you in all the old familiar places. ▼

■ For general information about the 19th annual San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, call the 24-hour information line at (415) 703-8650. For tickets to all events, you can visit any BASS outlet or you can order tickets by phone by calling BASS at (415) 776-1999, (510) 762-BASS, or (408) 998-BASS.

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THEATRE

'Unidentified Human Remains
and the True Nature of Love'

Into the Void

by Jerry Metzker

The focus of Brad Fraser's *Unidentified Human Remains and the True Nature of Love*, currently at the Magic Theatre, is on the malleability and inconsistency of friendship. Simultaneously, Fraser is striving for something more.

In order to explore his subject, the playwright focuses on the lives of an oft-neglected generation of people, those born at the end of the Baby Boomer generation but before the advent of Generation X. Coming in between both groups, this generation is neither one nor the other, yet is a little bit of both. And in Fraser's opinion, this is not a pleasant place to be.

Contradictions abound: As people, they neither accept love nor reject it. Their lives are neither wonderful nor awful. Each character has remarkable vision, yet is blind to his/her own foibles. They know their friends, yet never show that they know anything about them but their names. All in all, it's not a pretty place to be, and Fraser captures this void perfectly in his writing.

Set in the city of Edmonton, Alberta, where, according to one character, winter lasts about ten months, the play focuses on two pals and their traumatic lives. David (David Arrow) is a gay waiter and former TV actor who spends most of his time wander-

ing the local gay haunts (bars and parks) in search of quick, but ultimately unsatisfying, sexual thrills. His roommate and best friend, Candy (Delia MacDougal), is a book reviewer who virtually shuts herself up inside their apartment, venturing out only to go to the gym and to stop off at a bar on the way home.

The atrophy of their lives is complicated by the other characters.

Haunting all of the ensuing complications are the macabre murder tales told to the audience by David's psychic prostitute pal, Benita (Nancy Shelby), and the even more ominous news accounts of the rapes and mutilations of a series of young women in the town.

Although it's perfectly obvious who the killer is, Fraser weaves the various threads of his play so subtly that the character's presence is more a portent of doom than it is actually threatening.

As with all Industrial Strength Productions, the acting is excellent. MacDougal once again proves that she is one of the Bay Area's great actresses. ▼

■ *Unidentified Human Remains and the True Nature of Love*, directed by Peter Glazer, continues at the Magic Theatre through June 4. Call 441-8822 for tickets and information.

Adams/Jordan Collaboration Twilight of the Angelenos

by Paul Thomason

It is appropriate that Berkeley was the site of the world premier of *I was Looking at the Ceiling and Then I saw the Sky* because the piece is a paean to political correctness.

Alas, that is all the simplistic "two-act song play" offers. With music by John Adams, libretto by June Jordan and directed by Peter Sellars, this "earthquake/romance" (as Jordan calls it) is a mind-numbing, heavily amplified evening which left me with new empathy for political dissidents who are sent to reeducation camps. If you value propaganda in the theater more than drama, emotion or characterization you will adore *Ceiling/Sky*. Otherwise it is a long evening.

The work consists of 25 songs sung (or spoken) by seven characters who live in Los Angeles, all of whom are under 25 years old. Consuelo (played by Sophia Salguero) is originally from El Salvador, in this country illegally, unmarried and the mother of two children, the youngest of whom was fathered by Dewain (Harold Perrineau, Jr.), a black reformed gang leader just out of jail. Consuelo's young son is missing and she decides (for some reason) immigration officials have taken him "for bait." (Huh?) She calls Dewain's beeper and on the way to her house Dewain stops off at a convenience store to pick up a couple of beers to help the two of them calm down. Deciding the checkout line is too long, Dewain ("a natural born leader") steals the beer.

Unfortunately for him, Mike (Michael Ness), a white cop, just happens to be there and arrests him. Since Tiffany (Kaitlin Hopkins), a white "TV crime-as-news reporter," is tagging along with Mike in search of a story, she films the whole event. At Dewain's trial his Legal Aid lawyer, Rick (Welly Yang), a Vietnamese immigrant, tells the judge, "... it's always open season/on a Young Black man set up to fail ... /I think it's a Cultural Thing/His rage and his petty mistake!"

Also in the cast are David (Jesse Means II), a womanizing black Baptist minister, and Leila (Kennyia J. Ramsey), a black graduate student who works as a counselor in a family-planning clinic and who is trying to keep David's attention all on herself.

One of the (many) major problems with the piece is the libretto. Consuelo tells Leila, "What is more beautiful than the babies/born of a lust/for justice and dignity/ - and me?!" Later, Leila replies, "Sex is great but/It's not the same as public education!" Even Mozart would have difficulty finding inspiration in that, unless he treated it as the comedy it really is.

Adams, however, seems to have decided to take it all seriously, and though the overture is in his familiar (*Nixon in China*, *Death of Klinghoffer*) minimalist style, the rest of the music is a variety of pop idioms - blues, Motown, jazz, rock, etc. (Adams has said he was inspired by Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess* and Bernstein's *West Side Story*.) The most enjoyable part of the evening was listening to

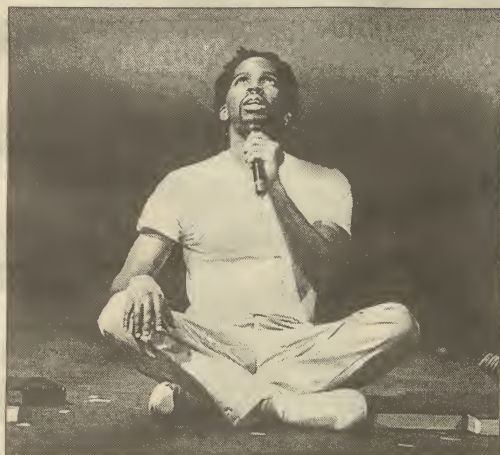


Photo: Ken Friedman 1995

Harold Perrineau, Jr. as Dewain.

Adams' orchestrations played by the Paul Dresher Ensemble under the direction of Grant Gershon. But none of the songs really come to life. None help us care about the characters on stage, or flesh them out beyond their superficial outlines.

In fact, these one-dimensional stereotypes are often downright offensive. Had *Ceiling/Sky* originated in Alabama rather than Berkeley, and if the two white characters had not been treated with such contempt, the portrayal of the non-white characters as they now stand would (deservedly) raise cries of "racist" from the media: David as the oversexed black man, Consuelo as a Latino woman who only wants to have lots of babies, Rick the Oriental who wants to go out with the blonde white woman, Dewain the angry black man.

But since bumbling Mike (being white) has no sense of rhythm and therefore is totally out of it when the men sing their jazzy "Song About the Sweet Majority Population of the World," and since Tiffany is just an empty-headed, sex-crazed blonde bimbo, it must all be okay.

In an astonishingly inept bit of plotting (even by this piece's standards), Mike makes his way to Tiffany's apartment after an earthquake hits LA to make sure she is okay. She comes on to him sexually, and when he does not respond she exclaims, "Maybe you're queer! Maybe you're gay!"

Mike: "Maybe - Jesus Christ - maybe you're right!"

Tiffany: "Obviously this is not a good night!"

Right. Just because a man chooses not to have sex with a particular woman, it means he is gay, even though he hasn't in any way shown a sexual attraction to another guy. Seconds later Rick shows up and Tiffany (according to the libretto) "throws herself into Rick's arms."

Sellars' direction seems to contribute little to the evening. At the beginning of the piece the actors moved into the audience (a la *Hair*) but soon gave that up. The committed, competent cast was hampered by the hand mikes they used constantly, especially in Act II where several couples tried singing into their mikes while hugging each other, giving new meaning to the word

awkward. Even with the mikes, about a third of the words were unintelligible. Unfortunately the orchestra was also amplified, making the overall sound level often painfully loud. ▼

■ *Ceiling/Sky* is at the University of California's Zellerbach Playhouse through May 21. For tickets and information call (510) 642-9988.



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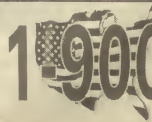
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United They Danced

by Paul Parish

The buzz was so strong for the San Francisco Ballet's international dance festival last week that the house (all 3300 seats) was completely sold out. People started lining up for standing room at 4:30 in the afternoon for an 8 p.m. curtain. The standees were so thick that it was a pleasant struggle just getting through the crowd and into the auditorium.

Reporters had come from all over the world: from Britain alone there were five or six, from *The Times*, *The Observer*, *The Scotsman*, and others I never got straight. And dancers had come from Shanghai, Tokyo, Moscow, London, Caracas, Leipzig, Copenhagen, from north Italy, Cuba, Australia, Holland – 145 dancers in all (including SFB), divided up over three nights. Fourteen choreographers took bows with their dancers, and at the end of the evening, when all the performers came back out on stage, at least half the house stood and cheered as the dancers onstage clapped and waved back at us.

Three nights in a row, we saw fabulous dancing: the levels of performance were exceptionally high, and so were the spirits of the crowd. The occasion was the 50th anniversary of the signing of the United Nations Charter here in San Francisco, and the feeling was like a great family reunion, where a miraculous spirit of indulgence has arisen, and for the time being people are willing to love each other in spite of, perhaps on account of, their differences.

Under these conditions what matters is that everyone must knock themselves out to entertain each other, they must give 110 percent, and all parties acknowledge that if they give you all they've got, that's enough. Thus the audience cheered long and hard for Alicia Alonso, who at age 76 and almost completely blind, did what pirouettes and petite batterie she still can do, and allowed the company she founded (the National Ballet of Cuba) to surround, support, and adore her. The dance was pitiable: a Mother's Day card come to life, choking with sentimentality and emotional blackmail. Still, Alonso belongs at a celebration of the United Nations. She is a *monstre sacre*, but she is also virtually a head of state; she represents the heroic generation of the high-minded communists, who used ballets like *Giselle* (of which she was a great exponent) to advance the idea of human rights, and of high culture as the heritage of all humanity.

International Style

The festival was a smorgasbord: each country brought



Tina LeBlanc in Mark Morris' *Pacific*.

Photo: Marty Soli

a new work by a national choreographer. They came in many styles. The sexy Latin number came from Caracas, whose four skinny girls ("like whippets on speed," the Scotsman said) and four hunky guys preened and stretched and exploded in mid-air in an atmosphere of cabaret exoticism, to Latin American popular songs. Both men and women exhibited phenomenal control, and though the choreography was not serious, it was well-crafted entertainment.

We got sexy numbers of all kinds. The Australians gave us an aboriginal ritual. *Corroboree* was a "Rite of Spring" from down under, with the women throwing their skirts over their heads and doing lots of pelvic tilts while the men

threw themselves acrobatically around the stage. Again the piece was well laid out, and the dancers hit their marks, posturing in a style that reminded me of Martha Graham's early work – percussive, expressionistic, exciting.

Virgin sacrifice came in many forms: in a silent-movie style from Shanghai (where the tyrant throws the girl who refuses him down a well, whence she comes back to haunt him); from Tokyo, in a more ritualistic style involving a girl and three half-naked men with pointed ears (fauns?); from the Bolshoi, in a Paul Tayloresque tale in which a thoughtless rich girl seduces and breaks the heart of a simpleton.

Enduring dance

The three ballets that seem likely to last were also the ones that seemed to evoke most powerfully the ideals embodied in the United Nations Charter. Mark Morris' *Pacific*, for San Francisco Ballet, was a dance utopia. There was no cabaret exoticism; rather the men had a clean, open playfulness that was not turned towards us (they might have been horses playing in a field). The women seemed more serious, as if they had a ritual to perform – again, not for us, but for themselves. They entered walking in procession, and though their formation expanded and contracted as their steps gained elevation and velocity, they remained in a parallelogram, like a flock of birds. The pas de deux might be for a brother and sister – the romance is in how all these people have their freedom in harmony with each other.

Uwe Scholz's geometric *Pax Quatuor*, for the Leipzig Ballet, is set to sublime religious music as two men support the hyperflexible Sybille Naundorf. As she opens out into vastly extended arabesques, floating in their arms, she articulates longings for expansiveness, for perfected forms that are born in us, that we wake up with every day, and almost never experience in our lives.

The biggest hit of the festival was probably Christopher Bruce's *Meeting Point*, for London's Rambert Dance Company, which wittily used dancers in tails to evoke both the European power elite and the way young people like to dress up and play power elite (like on prom night). Bruce alternated the bowing and scraping of court dancing with a swirling postmodern idiom to set up anxieties about high-level treachery and dissolves them into a swirl of utopian joy. I hope that San Francisco Ballet will take *Meeting Point* into its repertory. ▼

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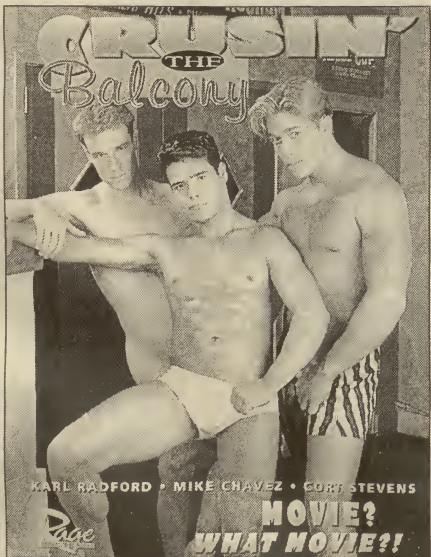
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'Measure 9'

Continued from cover

As lesbian and gay Oregonians woke up to the time bomb at the heart of their rural and small-town communities, they pulled together to combat the OCA machine. Their successful counter-campaign is a model of how to beat the Right with the most basic and effective tools of democratic politics – tireless grass-roots organizing and coalition-building.

Unlikely alliances

Activist Donna Red Wing emphasizes the importance of coming out: "the most important political act of your life." This is especially true for gay people living in rural communities, where isolation and lack of a centralized community can weaken a cohesive bloc of resistance.

Kathleen Saadat emerges as a powerful and charismatic hero of the struggle. She speaks movingly of her process of coming out in the African American community and forging crucial alliances with black Americans by demonstrating the clear links between the civil rights movement and lesbian/gay rights. A particular strength of the film is how it draws critical parallels between other examples of oppression rooted in hatred of difference, both in Oregon's own history and world history. "No On 9" activists were able to garner strong support from other communities not commonly thought of as particularly sympathetic to queers: people of color, Catholics, Jews, and other

religious minorities, and the elderly (who witnessed firsthand the destructive power of the Nazi rhetoric of the '30s, of which OCA and other Religious Right proselytizing is chillingly reminiscent).

The film tracks the appalling escalation of violence against lesbian and gay people and "No On 9" supporters, culminating in the deaths of two young people in a firebomb attack on their Salem home. A straight woman who spoke out against the measure was repeatedly stalked and harassed, and the parents of a lesbian who publicly "came out" in support of their daughter in an interview in the local press became the target of a hate campaign.

The OCA denied any culpability in what one gay activist called a "reign of terror," but murderous threats left on the "No On 9" answering machine and slogans spray-painted on church walls were capped with the words: "Yes on 9."

Ballot Measure 9 should be shown in every high school, at every activist training, and on public television stations nationwide. More than ever, its message must be heard and heeded as the nation lurches ominously to the right and religious fundamentalists grow increasingly skillful at creating ignorance-bred hatred. As the film poster puts it, a similar assault may be coming soon to a town near you. See this film, and get busy. ▼

■ *Ballot Measure 9* plays The Castro Theatre May 22-25. Call 621-6120 for information.

History Lessons

Out of the Past
by Neil Miller;
Vintage, \$16

by Garland Richard Kyle

For a lively and immensely readable history of the gay and lesbian community, pick up the Vintage Original *Out of the Past — Gay and Lesbian History from 1869 to the Present* by Neil Miller. This is not your run-of-the-mill historical tome but a truly engaging work that is both accessible and entertaining to read.

To his credit, Miller has included brief excerpts of gay and lesbian literary works from various periods, which place each chapter in an accurate historical light. For easy reading, the book's structure allows the reader to select chapters at random while providing essential historical and cultural information that give an important sense of place and time.

The former editor of *Gay Community News*, Miller has a vivid, intelligent prose style. The book's narrative is remarkably fluid and gives readers a sense of history in motion rather than the stagnant prose of more thorough, albeit dry, academic texts. Though not a historian, Miller's approach to historical writing is an important step in reclaiming a popular audience that has been reluctant to read, let alone buy, books on historical subjects.

Despite some sketchy research and the book's obvious American-European orientation, the author has attempted to create a text that is representative of gay and lesbian history. But while Miller does include a brief section on "The International Scene," it seems more an afterthought than an original part of the manuscript. Full chapters devoted to homosexuality in Russia and Harlem give us a developed picture of what homosexuality was like in those places, yet we learn far less about homosexuality in Japan or Argentina.

Unfortunately, one of the major flaws of Miller's book is the lack of historical (and cultural) information on developing countries and its dependence on retelling the history of the more infamous gay men and lesbians in the West. The author should have subtitled *Out of the Past* — "Gay and Lesbian History in the West."

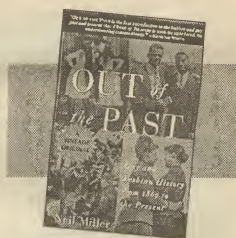
Sweeping statements

Besides this obvious omission, Miller also tends to rely a bit too heavily on certain historians for his research (Lillian Faderman, for example, in his discussion of lesbians in the '20s), while using other writers, like Walter Williams, to make sweeping historical statements with little evidence or additional sources to back up his claims. Miller writes:

Williams suggests that migration to the frontier might have been a common pattern for men who were attracted to other men. Such men might have been drawn to the frontier because it was a virtually all-male society and because sodomy was associated with the Indians.

While this is an interesting revisionist theory, Miller provides little documentation for such a stunning historical revelation and goes on to quote Williams' vague, if qualifying, historical conclusion:

This is not to suggest that most men went west with these



more or less conscious notions, but it does suggest that those historians who do not consider this motivation ignore an important fact of frontier life.

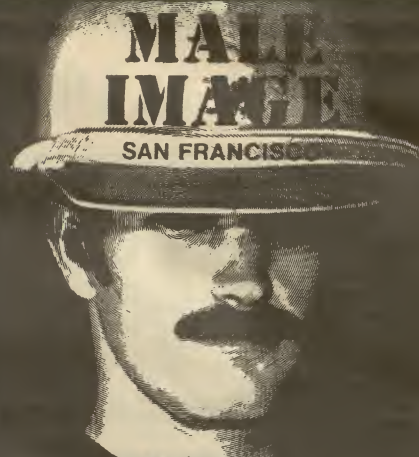
This may be so, but in these instances *Out of the Past* reads less like a serious historical text and more like a "Did you know that?" anthology.

The brevity of each chapter (and historical period) also tends to work against the author's overall analysis. Miller falls prey to the "notable queer syndrome" and allows many of the latter chapters on contemporary gay and lesbian history to become a

name-dropping "Who's Who" of modern gay life.

I really don't consider tennis champ Martina Navratilova a major "historical figure," nor do I believe she deserves the several pages devoted to her. The detailed analysis of "The Clinton Years" is given far too much attention considering this administration's ineptitude on important social issues affecting gays and lesbians and its betrayal of several campaign promises made to this same community.

Despite these shortcomings, *Out of the Past* should be approached as one of the more lucid and well-organized introductions to gay and lesbian history in the West. Not since Jonathan Katz's *Gay American History* appeared in 1976 has a writer undertaken such a mammoth task of reintroducing gay and lesbian history to a popular audience. *Out of the Past* represents a valuable accomplishment and is essential reading for those who desire an impressive chronicle of our history. ▼



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Laughter as Dissent

Laughing Hysterically: American Screen Comedy of the 1950s by Ed Sikov; Columbia University Press, \$29.50

by Daniel Mangin

The '50s are often remembered as a time of dull conformity, when pop culture reinforced rigid social roles. But there was also dissent, as Ed Sikov points

out in *Laughing Hysterically*, a scholarly but readable dissection of comedies directed by Howard Hawks, Billy Wilder, Alfred Hitchcock and Frank Tashlin.

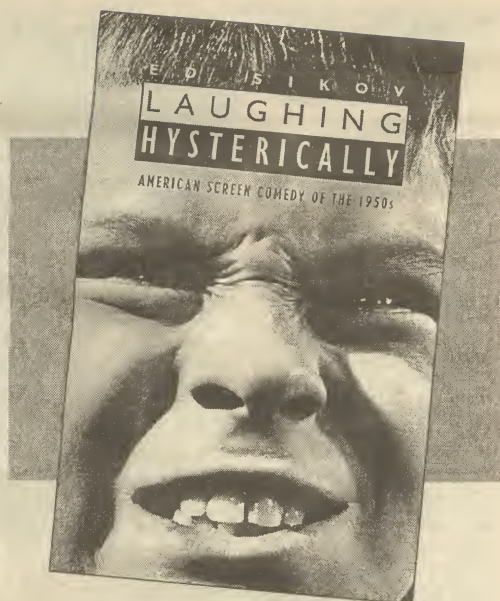
Sikov finds that key 1950s works represented "a matrix of themes and moods: sexual repression, harsh social constraints in an era of economic plenty, emotional despair at a time of political complacency, psychological displacement, and a deep-seated morbidity that

contrasts with the mood of simple-minded optimism that later decades have ascribed to the period."

Sikov states up front that he has a special interest in gay and lesbian depictions. He critiques the critics, noting with Wilder's *Some Like It Hot*, for instance, that the "film's commentators are often little more than walking, talking symptoms of the same cultural hysteria that produced and sustained the antigay assaults of the 1950s."

For Sikov, nowhere are reviewers' biases more evident than in their analyses of *Hot*'s famous closing scene, when Osgood (Joe E. Brown) replies "Nobody's perfect" after Jerry/Daphne (Jack Lemmon), who's been in drag the whole film, reveals he's a man. After illustrating how critics then and now (not to mention Wilder) have danced around Brown's implicitly gay punch line, Sikov makes a coherent case that "the sexual trajectory of Osgood's relationship leads inexorably toward a dreaded/desired homosexual act."

Not that '50s comedies' sexual concerns weren't largely hetero. Big breasts were all the rage — "They were big, they were comical, they required euphemisms, and they were simultaneously objects of desire and threat," writes Sikov. Jane



Russell's anatomy was a key focus in *Gentleman Prefer Blondes* and Jayne Mansfield's even more so in *The Girl Can't Help It* and *Will Success Spoil Rock Hunter?*

The last two films, directed by Tashlin, are often seen as models of '50s artistic compla-

cency, but Sikov sees them as challenging racism, sexism and other social ills of the time. That he's able to conduct in-depth scrutiny of these two bubble-headed films without pretension is but one of *Laughing Hysterically's* worthy accomplishments. ▼

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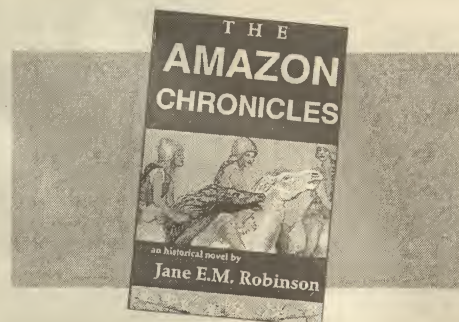
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BOOK BRIEF



Rich Narrative

The Amazon Chronicles by Jane E.M. Robinson; Clothspin Fever, \$15.95

by Deborah Peifer

Under patriarchy, women have typically been written out of history, a situation that means we must constantly work to rediscover our own past, and, when necessary, invent a past for ourselves. In her remarkable novel, *The Amazon Chronicles*, Jane Robinson creates a fascinating, and utterly believable, world of Amazons that is compelling both as fiction and historical narrative.

The story is set in 1240 BCE in the realm of the Amazons. Constant watch must be kept in order to pro-

tect the land, and its women, from the incursions of Achaeans, Trojans, and others of their (masculinist) ilk. But all is not rosy among the Amazons. A fight over dynastic heritage threatens to divide the women, and destroy their extraordinary country.

Robinson creates fascinating and multi-dimensional characters, women and men, who live on in the memory. The plots, both major and minor, are richly detailed. I found myself thinking that Robinson must have discovered an actual history, so credible and interesting is her creation of the Amazons and their nation.

The Amazon Chronicles is a keeper, one that will fill your mind and dreams with memories of a time when we walked free and unafraid upon the earth. ▼

Play Ball

by Anne Ludwig

Minus the usual opening day ceremonies, the San Francisco Gay Softball League began its season on April 2. With the exception of a little rain on April 30, the GSL has enjoyed good softball weather.

This year the teams in each division will choose to be in either competitive or recreational categories. The playoff winners in each division's category will then have the opportunity to go to the Gay World Series, which will be held in Seattle.

The league has several new teams this year, which has made the competition a bit more lively. The Barbary Coast and Cable Car Divisions each have 11 teams, and the Women's Division has the most — 12 teams, all filled with gorgeous women (I play in the Women's Division).

Each division has a variety of team types. First, there are the hot dogs, teams whose members are in their early 20s and who'll throw themselves at a ball in order to stop it. Then there are those teams whose members have played softball since they were in high school and are damned good and a pleasure to watch (and play). And then there are teams comprised of players who've only played recreational ball and who simply enjoy the sport for the spirit of camaraderie it engenders in people.

What they're wearing

Softball fashion hasn't changed much in recent years. The long lycra shorts worn under baggy sweats are still popular. And baseball hats, it's

no surprise, remain an important part of the uniform. (Observation: For some reason, players wear them backwards. I guess so that anyone approaching the game from the outfield can see who is playing? I'm confused. I thought the bill was designed to keep the sun out of the eyes. Maybe the little circle of sunburn on the forehead is the desired result?) This year, one of the Women's Division teams — the "Askickers" — has chosen purple hats with a logo showing a woman doing a high kick on the front. (I wonder how many beers were consumed before the team settled on that clever name?)

The Division standings as of May 7 are as follows:

Barbary Coast

Golden Gators	6-0
Metro Ritas	6-1
Metro Golden Bear	5-3
Rolo	5-2
Bert's Dandies	4-4
Pilsner Penguins	4-3
Lonestar Longhorn	3-3
Lonestar Mayhem	3-5
Pendulum Pirates	1-4
Rock Dogs	1-4
Huffin Puffins	1-6

Cable Car

Daddy's Toons	6-0
No Drama	5-4
Polk Gulch Saloon	5-2
Cinch Spurs	5-4
Detour Demons	6-3
Rascals	3-2
Hides/Eagle	3-1
Pendulum Bucs	3-3
Home Federal Sav.	2-6
Pilsner Prism	2-8
Lyric	0-5
Women	



Photo: Anne Ludwig

Our Ladies of The Gay Softball League

The Cafe	8-0
Metro Women	5-1
Cafe Too	5-2
Just For Fun	5-1
Rolo Rookies	4-3
Tomboys II	3-3
Marcellos	3-4
Tomboyz I	2-3
Askickers	3-5
Winship Travel	2-4
Cinch	1-7
Yankees	0-6

The SFGSL's annual Amateur Night will be held on Sunday, June 3 (6 p.m.) at the California club, 1750 Clay St. Admission is \$10, a small price to pay to get to see the teams display their talents off the field. There is one show only, so get there early. Refreshments are available.

The next scheduled games are on Sunday, May 21 at the Balboa Fields on Ocean and San Jose, and at Rossi Fields on

Arguello and Anza. Games start at 10:20 a.m. with the last games of the day starting at 3:40

p.m. Come out, bring a cooler and support your friends: ▼

Prideful Bay to Breakers Run

by Anne Ludwig

Once again, San Francisco FrontRunners will run the annual Bay to Breakers run (Sunday, May 21) in centipede formation. The theme of this year's run is "A Rainbow of Fruit Flavors." If you would like to participate, call FrontRunners at 978-2429 and someone will get back to you with meeting times, locations, and costume requirements.

On Saturday, May 20, the FrontRunners will host its

annual Balloons Across the Bay Run at 9 a.m. Meet at the Upper Crissy Field Parking Lot. To get there, take the absolute last exit before the toll booths on the Golden Gate Bridge. When you reach the big paved parking lot (full of tourists), bear right and get to the exit. Turn left out of the parking lot. Turn left again. You'll end up in a big dirt parking lot. Each runner gets a free helium-filled balloon and then we run across the Golden Gate Bridge. It's a hoot! A picnic has been planned for after the run. ▼

SWEET LIPS

Marilyn Monroe Tribute In the Offing

At first I didn't believe my ears, but a press release confirmed the truth: Carol Channing will appear at Pleasuredome, Saturday, May 21 to present "One Night in Heaven," a high energy sexy dance fantasy featuring the performers from the national touring company of *Hello Dolly*, the hit musical of legend currently under way at the Golden Gate Theatre.

This event is a benefit for Under One Roof, so please come out for the party. Cost is \$7 at the door. Pleasuredome is at 177 Townsend St. Call 985-5256.

Further down my calendar, remember, folks, this year's Gay Pride Parade is on Sunday, June 18. Be there with bells on.

I just heard that Billy Bunz is back on the plank at Ed Scott's Hob Nob on Geary Street Monday and Tuesday mornings from 6 p.m. till 10. He still works afternoons at the Gate on Pine and Jones. Cheers Billy.

On Sunday, June 11, the Plush Room at the York Hotel (2 p.m.) will present a tribute to the fabulous Marilyn Monroe. A lookalike and soundalike contest is all part of the fun. Marilyn impersonators — good

ones only, please — are being asked to participate. Make your reservations early as tickets are bound to go quickly. Sure sounds like a lot of fun. Admission is only \$10. Call 550-1816 today for tix and info.

Thank you Martin Ryder of New York for the fabulous Mother's Day card. (Yes, dear readers, I am a mother, though of what we don't yet know.) I'll be in Seattle in early August visiting Ray McWade. Why don't you join us?

I also have a very dear friend visiting this week from Fort Worth, someone I've known longer than I'm willing to admit, F.L. Orman. It sure is nice to know that people still remember friends from way back when.

Kimo's Penthouse Showroom on Saturday, the 20th, will present the premiere performance of the fabulous Amber Michaels' Review. You don't want to miss this one.

Friday, May 26th, the Penthouse will hold Grand Duchess Joey's Benefit. Finally, don't forget, people, that Memorial Day weekend is coming up quick, so make plans now and make sure they include me and your friends at Kimo's. ▼



Register Now for Pride Run '95! June 17, 1995

Course

The USAT&F certified and sanctioned 5K & 10K course starts at the south end of the Polo Field. (Enter Golden Gate Park at 25th or 41st Avenue and Lincoln.) Course is on 100% asphalt, with gently rolling hills. Splits every mile.

Start

Race begins at 9 a.m. SHARP.

Registration

\$18 with t-shirt to FR members prior to June 10. \$20 with t-shirt to non-members

prior to June 10. \$25 with t-shirt after June 10 (includes race day). Race packets will be mailed for all registrations received by June 3. Late registrants packets available on race day. A limited number of sliding scale registrations are available upon request. Call John at (415) 703-0934.

T-Shirts

Guaranteed to all pre-registered runners and walkers.

Awards

Awards to top female and male participant

of 5K/10K Run, 5K Walk and Wheelchair events. Medals to top 3 men and women finishers in the following running divisions: under 20, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60 & over. Medals to 2nd and 3rd place finishers in 5K Walk.

Post-Race Activities

Refreshments after the run. Awards ceremony and potluck picnic celebration in the Polo Field.

Information

Please call Chris at (415) 703-0312.

I wish to volunteer ☐ Housing Offered ☐ Housing Needed ☐ 5K ☐ 10K ☐ Wheelchair ☐ 5K Walk ☐

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Mail to: SF FrontRunners, 584 Castro St. #300, SF CA 94114. Include a self-addressed, stamped 4 x 9.5" envelope. Amount Paid: \$

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Waiver: In consideration of your accepting my entry, I intend to be legally bound, do hereby for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, waive and release all claims of injury or damage I may accrue against all persons and entities in any way associated or involved with this event, including but not limited to San Francisco FrontRunners and the City and County of San Francisco. I certify that I am physically fit and have trained sufficiently to participate in this event.

Signature _____ Date _____
If under 18, parent or guardian must also sign

BARTALK

Parting Glances

Who Was Looking For John?

What is Fadda? Are you the yng guy who use to work at the Specialty Sandwich Shop on Spear St who use to wait on me? I wanted to meet you. My name is John. Could I be the one you were looking for? Please call, lets meet. **2901.**

Cafe Fiore 4/23

You: Dark, brooding features, Italian? wearing jeans, baseball cap & tank top. Me: stunned into silence by your beauty, a muscular blonde in tank top & denim shorts. You looked back. I froze in my seat! Wow I wish I wasn't so shy. Please call. **2938.**

Rick @ N'Touch 4/21

Can't stop thinking about you. Please call. I'd like to see you again. **3002.**

SF Film Festival, Castro Theater, 5/24

You: dark hair and beard. I was in long line near Pasqua. You walked by. We exchanged surprised smiles. You kept walking. My eyes and heart followed, but not my shy feet. **3003.**

You're Late!

Sunday 4/30 9-45. You: running for J Church at Clipper (Embarcadero), 6'4"-ish? Me: GAM on Sunday run. Interested in meeting you. Please call. **3038.**

Pendulum Sun

4/30 10-11pm
You: BM wearing glasses and light blue shirt talking w/ WM by pool table. Me: 6'2" WM wearing green henley talking w/ friends. We smiled, would like to meet you! Please call! **3101.**

J Church,

Sat., Morning, 4/29

You: cute man of col, torn jeans, drinking coffee, back pack. Me: white, seated at other end of train staring at you. I got off at Civic Center. You waved at me. I want to say hello to you and see you smile. Please call! **3102.**

Nidal

Have not talked in 2 years; please call Jim. Want to make sure that you are ok. Call!! **3103.**

Midnight Sun

We met in Midnight Sun on Tuesday afternoon 5/2. We went to circuit city and then you gave me a ride home. Just want to know how you're doing please call. **3104.**

Seeking Relationship M-M

GWM, 28, br/br 180#

HIV+, smoker, drinker, hopeful, caring, looking for someone to spend day's and nights with. Must be a dog lover, I have two. **2810.**

Zane Turley

Where Are You?

Hawaiian Jackie said Sacramento, but had no luck. John John from the Rumpus Room. **2908.**

Just Do It Now!

Capture the heart of this GAM 21, 5'9", 190#, cute, healthy, caring, romantic, sense of humor for fun & LTR. You: GWM, 25-35, clean cut, romantic, caring, honest, w/ good personality to capture. Do it to me, now! **2802.**

Felix El Gato Where RU

UB a close copy. U want a real relationship, no games, no shit, then contact me with the quickness. Booze, gangbanger Bi/Strait, Bi/Gay are ok. I'm worth it! **2903.**

Buffed GBM 4 Quality GWM

Masculine, muscled, intelligent, spirited, African-American, executive type seeks versatile, mature, confident, witty, good looking, gym-toned, Euro-American hunk for sex, laughs, friendship...maybe more!! **2812.**

Where Are You?

Attractive GWM, 5'8", 25, blonde, seeks Mr. Right. We are both physically fit, masculine and HIV+. You: Top. Me: Bottom. Under 35. Take a chance. **2838.**

Handsome

Hot, aggressive, intellectual, vers., 46, 6'3", 190#, HIV+, gym-toned, smooth, looking for honest, handsome, hard, hung, humorous hunky husband, 43-49 w/ a great body & better mind. Blondes born Feb 19-23 or Oct. 19-23 A+. **2804.**

Bisexual WM

Bottom, HIV-, 40's, trim shape, smooth body, clean-cut looking, very oral and romantic interested in a discreet relationship w/ GWM, 50's-60's. HIV-, trim, romantic and enjoys top position. Must have your own place. **2905.**

Seeking Romantic SF GWM Top

For affectionate, giving GWM bottom. We like weekend drinks, dining, dates. We're fun and healthy. HIV+ ok. Be younger than me. I'm 5'11", 220# of non-attitude. Want a LTR. **2907.**

My Life Sucks Without You

To compensate I play tennis, canoe, hike, cook, garden, read, go to the opera, CW dance, work out. I'd like to share all this and more. HIV-, very young 40. Sober. **2908.**

El Gato I Need U!

UB close copy of porn star Flex El Gato. U want serious relationship, no games, contact me. I'm bi, M, bi/bi, 59, 150# slim smooth body. Bi/strait, Bi/gay, gang banger ok. **2808.**

Quirky Queer Age 19

GWM, 5'10", 180#, cute, br/bl. Time occupants include an eclectic selection of music and movies, vegetarian and organic food, cafe's, cemeteries. I seek a GWM 18-24 who is as off center as I am to inflict my pondering. **2811.**

Europeans

I am visiting Europe this summer. How about me showing you around beautiful San Francisco, you show me around your lovely country/hometown. Hot sex is an option not mandatory, friendship/companionship is mandatory. I am a handsome Asian/Hawaiian body builder w/ a hot muscular body and a warm heart. **2897.**

Asian Lover Wanted

Handsome, WM, 51, (looks 30's), 5'11", clean shaven. Not a sugar daddy, HIV-, w/ a genuine and exclusive attraction to younger Asians. Seeks 25-30, under 5'6", slim, no face hair for long term relationship, sincere, monogamous. **3004.**

Seeking Friendship Only

Looking for people who don't do drugs or judge them for who they are! GWM, HIV+, healthy looking for people who are not into the bar scene and who like the simple things that life brings. **2842.**

In Search of GLM

GWM, 39, 6', 210#, bi/bl, hairy seeks oral GLM who loves to kiss, cuddle and into fantasies. Not looking for a gym clone. Be under 45, N/D, HIV-. I'm waiting to make your fantasy come true. **3005.**

Muscular Hot GWM, 37

Looking for a smooth hairless Asian to date, poss LTR please be honest, dependable. **2843.**

HIV+, 150#, 5'7", GBM Seeks

Asian or white bottom, age really does not matter if you have a youthful body and are thin to med build. I am attracted to guys who are naturally feminine. Me: straight appearing appearing, average looks thin build, a strong lover, personally low key, aggressive, can be a little overpowering, not into gay scene. **3008.**

New to SF

Tall goodlooking masculine & very well-built male seeks same. I'm 42, 6'1", 195# (HIV-) into bodybuilding, motorcycle & jeep trips, and macho lovin' w/ one intelligent together guy! **3007.**

Leather Top or Bottom

African American male wants to experience the leather trip again this time seeking a experience leather man or couple into videos toys, FF etc please be real. **3008.**

Sometimes a Cigar Is Just a Cigar

If you want to meet an honest, open, spiritual, intelligent, passionate, GWM, 32yo, 135#, and you are the same (race not important) and you are into exercise of the mind & body, then we could be for each other. **3009.**

Orlando Tights

GWM professional in Florida has sensual fetish for the feel/look of nylon/lycra. Not into drag. Loves the Bay Area & seeks friends, bicycling, ballet & kitties. **3010.**

Butch GWM

6'1", 205#, 35, br/bl, gym toned, healthy seeks rock solid, hard muscled Latino/Mexican or Asian for fun times and possible relationship. **3011.**

Significant Other

I'm a very attractive GWM, HIV+. Love comedy, arts, entertainment and people. Seeking similar top man over 6 feet tall. North Bay resident. **3018.**

More Than Sex

Goodlooking top, 44yo, looking for a submissive bottom into bondage and SM, hairy a plus, also into movies and having fun. New to the city. HIV+. **3012.**

Sensual Snuggle and J/O Sessions

Like videos? Like snuggling? Like J/O? Me too! Appearance, age race not important, N/D, No Drink, smoke ok. AM's or PM's, My place or yours. **3013.**

Soul Mate Needed

Attractive, GWM, 29, locked up for non violent offense, 6 months to go at 850 Bryant. I need some one to help straighten out my life and spend it with. Would like attractive 23-30 GWM. **3014.**

Truth, Justice & The Gay American Way

GWM, 34, 6', 185#, handsome, Italian descent, top to versatile. Serious about meeting a super man. You are GWM 30-45, wgt. in proportion to hgt., attractive, dark Irish A+. No addictions, no pretense, soulful, ethical, truthful, relationship ready/talk of relentless hard on later. **3015.**

Gentleman Seeks Asian Top Youth

23-37 educated, likes weekend dating, drinking, romance in SF only. We: healthy, humorous, sexy. Me: gentle southern bottom inclined to LTR. GWM, early 50's, 5'11", 224#, & 3017.

Lover At Park Morced

Black male educator 33, 5'0", 190#, romantic, passionate, honest seeks friend, lover, championship 18-45. If interested call. **3018.**

I Have A Bear Magazine Look

GWM, 40, hairy, husky, balding, with a western moustache. I'm 5'9", 195#, dark brn hair. I'm looking for guy 20-30 w/ attractive boyish looks for a possible relationship. I enjoy bicycling walks, film, safe versatile sex & cuddling. **3041.**

Looking Sexy In Leather and Boots

Handsome, bi/bl, gym toned, 33yo, HIV-, ISO a lean under 35, relationship oriented GWM. Affectionate, politically aware and health conscious A+. If you're looking for a good guy who you'll want to spend time with, then give me a call! **3048.**

Vallejo GWM Seeks

GM, HIV- petite body. No drinking/drugs/smoke, 30-40ish, a lone not lonely seeking friendship w/ a honest "Don't Go To Bar Professional." Me: 5'8". Love to laugh and enjoy outdoors. Lets exchange calls and get together, you will be pleased. **3105.**

BM, 38, 6'1", Goodlooking

Wants BM, 18-45yo. I can take 10' of manhood. No gag, I guarantee you'll be amazed. Deep throat. **3108.**

Attractive GWM

38, 6', 180#, HIV+, with short brown hair, and mustache, blue eyes, smooth body, seeks good-looking, (be honest), men between 28-40. Only Latin, black, and Asian need apply. Lets be friends, then well see what happens. **3107.**

Young Cute Buns Seeks Older Top

I'm 25, 6'1", 159# and of slim athletic (track 8 field) built w/ super cute buns and satin sm-ooth skin. I'm exclusively attracted to very masculine men 52-69 seeking excellence in and out of bed. **3108.**

Available

33, 6'2", 175# very attractive top seeks sexual adventure and dating with a romantic, passionate man U. B. around my age, trim and affectionate. **3109.**

Horny GBM seeks GWM

I very attrc handsome muscular GBM. Strong stern silent yet erotic & adventurous. Facial hair a must. You attrc & strong sexual drive. I'm vers. for the right man other wise I'm usually top. **3110.**

Russian River Hideaway

Mature English bachelor needs masculine married type for sexual action in Healdsburg. Also outdoor nakedness, boating, S/M, etc. **3111.**

Muscular Hot GWM 37

Looking for a smooth hairless Asian to date & poss LTR. Please be honest, in shape and dependable. **3112.**

Marin Top

Clean cut, GWM, 43, 5'10", 185#, HIV+, healthy and happy, seeks a mature relationship with another man who enjoys being outdoors & who is into country living. Looking for someone HIV+, healthy, 35-45, of decent shape, mind & body w/ honorable intentions, to have my way with. **3113.**

Italian Romantic

Seeks GAM/GWM/GHM for companionship, romantic liaisons, and just good mutual fun. Live a little and enjoy what life has to give. Be sincere. San Jose/San Francisco willing to love and be loved. Be a real down-to-earth person. **3114.**

Let's Share A Life

GWM, 34, romantic, HIV-, NS, masculine, professional, humorous, adventures. Seeks GWM, GWM, 25-40, NS, HIV- for monogamous long term relationship. **3115.**

Tenderloin Type Wanted

Your scruffy GWM, 5'9" or less, under 45, ND, employed, HIV-, laidback and like big guys. Me: GWM 6', 240#, a top, and employed. Looking for good times and possible relationship. Many interests. **3118.**

Masculine Tall GWM

Handsome, 43yo, 6'3", 175#, salt & pepper hair, HIV-, seeks steamy, monogamous relationship. You: WGM, 30-45, HIV-, tall, financially secure, great sense of humor. Romantic & affectionate only need apply. **3117.**

They Say I'm Beautiful

But I've had no luck so far with relationships. I'm tall, dark, slim w/ nice smile. If you're WM 28-40 who's masculine and lonely then let's meet. Please be clean and safe. **3118.**

Looking For Latino/Mexican Gay

You: Cute, goodlooking 24-30yo who is fun, good style (clothes & home) good energy, tone body, smooth and nice smile. Me: 30yo white/Italian, dark hair/brown eyes, 6'0", goodlooking, handsome, good style & smile. **3119.**

Positive Attraction

Are you HIV+, and tired of not dating? Read on! 35yo bi/bl, 6'3", 200#, HIV+ & healthy very handsome muscular romantic seeks playful dates to serious relationship w/ younger masculine muscular HIV+ romantics. **3120.**

Sexy SF GWM/GAM Top Sought

By generous, affectionate bottoms. Be younger than me, healthy, into raw sex. HIV+ (healthy ok, absolutely). We: humorous, like weekend dining/drinking. Me: GWM, early 50's, 220#. **3121.**

Looking for Younger GM

Looking for friendship/companionship over time possibly more. Me: 45, 5'9", 160#, attractive, professional, reliable, romantic. You: 20's-30's, 5'9" or less, nice looking, affectionate, honest sweet, maybe a bit on the quiet side, HIV-. **3122.**

Mature Rugged Body Builder

48yo, GWM, 5'11", 185#, br/br drug free, HIV-, clean shaven, no smoker into gyms, cars, motorcycles, travel, Net into bars. Seeks younger GWM for fun companionship and long sex sessions. **3123.**

Hot In-Shape GWM

32, Swimmer's build, 5'9", 140#, brn/grn educated professional seeks hot muscular man, any race. I'm fun, safe, HIV-, you too, please. **3150.**

Seeking Adventure M-M

Black Top Wanted

East Bay WM 40's HIV-, 6', 165# like to service big dark cock/balls u/c at+. **2815.**

The Hottest Guy In Town

Even the hottest guy in town is not, worth you risking your health over. Play safe! Protect yourself & those you play with. Always wear a condom when having anal sex, & don't panic, get early treatment, talk to someone that can help, & still play safe. **2816.**

Teddy Bear Wants Ass play

WM, Bi, overweight, top, wants to be finger fucked while being sucked. I like to be rimmed. Hairy body, thick cock, HIV- round smooth bubble but a plus. Openmind, east bay. **2813.**

Inexperienced Young Bottom

Me: W/M, Marin, curious, 22yo. You: 35+, patient, understanding yet aggressive. I am exploring something new. I'm anal/oral curious. Be, hairy and Masculine please. **2814.**

Seeking JO Friends

GWM, 33, seeks GAM and/or GHM, 18-32, for fun. No LTR's, pls. **2818.**

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Select One: ☐ Parting Glances ☐ Seeking Relationship M-M ☐ Seeking Adventure M-M ☐ Seeking Relationship W-W ☐ Seeking Adventure W-W ☐ Fetishes ☐ Couples ☐ Other

Name _____ Day Phone No. _____ Eve. Phone No. _____
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City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Write your headline here: _____ (stop here)

Write the rest of the ad here: _____ (stop here)

Mail to: BarTalk, 395 Ninth St., SF CA 94103

PERSONALS

Treat Yourself

35yo, hot Latin male masculine, in shape, tight 170#, 5'9", seeks tall and handsome 190/200# in shape big pecks, nice butt A+. Surprise me!! ☎ 2819.

Free Quality Massage

For well built young men who take good care of themselves. I'm 6'2", 175#, 41, good looking, masculine. A safe pleasurable experience. Table/skilled, sincere. ☎ 2819.

Top Seeks Bottoms

GWM, 40, healthy HIV+, 5'8", 140#, goodlooking, nice hard body and dick, not interested in bars, clubs, or LTR. wants nice looking, in shape, stable bottoms, 35-50 for sex and good times. ☎ 2817.

Handsome

Sonoma Co. Bad Boy
Needs man play. Tractors, power tools, simi trucks, horse power turns my crank. A truck pull or car show then to bed for a wild ride, getting it or giving it, both are equally as good. 5', 165#, bln/grn, 8'cut. I wanna take it or give it. ☎ 2820.

Hot, Hairy Tight Latino Ass

Looking for top GBM who enjoys fucking hot Latino ass. I am slender & hot. I like big fat dick in my man's hole. Weekends PM best. Time to call, Give me a try. ☎ 2821.

Explore Me East Bay

GWM totally bottom HIV-, only small body have van park anyplace. Day night safe pleasurable experience all welcome. ☎ 2822.

Increasing Limits

Handsome 31yo, GWM, bottom seeks regular fuck buddies, increase my limits. Ability to serves, rigorous bondage, fisting, needle play, humiliation, electricity, toilet service, rubber. Anything twisted, but safe. ☎ 2823.

Two Heads Are Better Than One

Unparalleled oral service for adventurous, average to muscular men, 18-45. Two GWM experts are available and eager to drain you. We are both fit, clean and sane and enjoy oral encounters. ☎ 2825.

Hung Top 8" Cock

Needs hot tight white young ass to fuck me. 51yo, 6'0", 155#, brn/brn, glasses you white under 40 smooth bodies and a nice butt that needs to be plowed. ☎ 2826.

Daddy-Type Black Topman

Discreet, honest and hung top, offers 9 1/2" of sweet chocolate manhood to masculine, husky, mature bottoms. All race welcome. Please be easy to reach by phone, able to travel, have lots of free time. Non-bearded preferred. ☎ 2827.

Submissive FFB

W/BD sling, seeks heavy duty relentless, top fist, intense is the key word, hot WM, fit 59, 5'11", 165#, beard, tats, deepthroat. Any age, race, etc. Top couples welcome. ☎ 2828.

Double Adventure

In shape WM, 5'11", hung big, needs well built WM, hairy legs and big hairy bubble butt to eat and fuck. ☎ 3021.

Straight But Horny?

SWM, bisexual, 36, seeks straight WM under 36 who is curious about servicing a handsome bi guy or possible getting penetrated slowly and sensuously until you explode in ecstasy. Be masculine, shy, emotional. ☎ 2828.

Strip Naked

Experience the euphoria of a refreshing massage. Free for masculine guys 18 to 38 with lean build by trim, masculine WM 39. ☎ 3023.

Safe Sex Party

Very selective, must be very goodlooking and great body, monthly, 12-25 men per group depending on space. Check clothes except underwear/shorts upon entering. ☎ 2840.

Fat Dicks Tight Ass

When I'm a top, I'm a top. When I'm a bottom, I'm a bottom. I'm 31, 150#, masculine, dark hair, I believe I'm sexy and handsome w/ a great body(7 1/2 very hard one) If you're 34-45 and you have a fat dick or tight ass, great fun granted. Your looks are not important. ☎ 2824.

Masculine Deep Throat

GWM, HIV-, 40, 185#, muscular, 6'2", br/bl, honest, discrete seeks hot tops for day/evening intense sessions. U.B. 40-50, HIV-, built for a big man w/ a very deep throat. Prefer Ebay but SF ok. Peace. ☎ 2830.

Wanted Gdkg BM Top

By So. Mkt couple for 3-way action. ☎ 2838.

Black Exotic Male

HIV-, bother wants those slender hot sexy Asian men for some good times. If you're clean shaved, slender, nice round ass and want to be on the bottom end. Call me. ☎ 3019.

Joystick Wrestling

Handsome, muscular GWM seeks other built men for erotic wrestling. Let's work up a sweat, stiff cocks pressed hard against each other, as we struggle for top. Go ahead and accept my challenge, you won't be disappointed. ☎ 3024.

All Wilcum

UR, 8+, and need satisfaction. I'm 35, tall, blonde, deep throat, tight butt, sensual, clean, fun. Your gratification is my objective. Sound good? Let me know! ☎ 3028.

Where Are The Hung Men

Looking for well endowed top men for hot play. You should be under 36, thin & muscular, NS, 8' or more. I'm 34, 5'9", 140#, goatee, smooth swimmer's build, 30" waist, 75" cut. Let's play! ☎ 3028.

Hot Wet But

Need deep, penetrating attention by BM, any age, height/weight proportionate. Me: 47, 170#, 5'10", goatee, moustache, balding, great ass. You: nice guy, honest with stamina for hours of fun. ☎ 3037.

House Calls Needed

Attractive GWM, 5'10", 185#, br/gr, goatee, hairy chest, HIV-, studying for July BAR Exam. Looking for oral sessions, my place, to ease stress. You: 25-40, attractive, smooth, in-shape, HIV-, any race. Poss. LTR after exam. ☎ 3042.

Like Being Tied Up?

30, 6', 195#, hairy chest muscle jock seek same into being tied, gagged, shaved & being worked over. Into skimpy briefs, speedos & other sexy underwear. ☎ 3043.

Big Dick Seeks Same

Youthful, gym-toned, 42yo GBM seeks masculine horse hung Latinos, Italians, Mediterranean and other dark eyed olive, skinned beauties for safe fun. I'm 5'11", 180#, hung 8"x6" uncult. Younger and larger preferred. ☎ 3127.

Daytime Fun

Hot Latin bottom wanted by attr w/m, 30, great bod, great top! I'm fit, horny & ready. You are too. ☎ 3128.

Muscles & Pecs

Very masculine, muscular WM, 41, 6', 190#, cleancut, hairy, 47c, 32w, 17a, solid pecs, intense nipples, sleeker smaller, buffed, smooth, quiet/shy WM with passionate nipple attraction & sweet disposition. HIV- ☎ 3130.

Bodybuilder Wanted

GBM top seeks bodybuilder bottom for hot, safe, ongoing fun. Me: 38, 6'0", 210#, HIV-, gym-toned, attractive, friendly. You: all bottom, with strong thighs and big, receptive glutes. ☎ 3131.

All Wilcum

UR 8+ and need satisfaction. I'm 35, tall, blond, deep throat, tight butt, sensual, clean, fun. Your gratification is my objective. Sound good? Let me know! ☎ 3134.

Let's Meet and JO

On your home in Mann weekdays 4-6pm. I'm GWM, 35, 180, 6'. You should be similar. Looking for hot, safe and discreet encounters. Let's get off on your way home. ☎ 3140.

Italian Daddy Will Molests Asians

You're in restraints with your sweet body exposed. I firmly but gently take what I want and give you what you need. No S/M. ☎ 3143.

I Love Cocks, Small to Medium

I crave discipline and control from a top man. I'm 6'2", 33, and masculine. Ready to worship your cock with my mouth and ass. You will not be disappointed!! ☎ 3141.

Fremont Man Wanted

Hot & lonely, young, professional, gym-toned, 130#. GAM seeking discreet, date encounters, any race, in or around Fremont for sex, fun & friendship or more. Your place or mine! ☎ 3142.

Fetishes

Spanking Fantasy

Seeking top man who is loving, yet firm and able to enforce discipline and obedience as he sees fit. Love giving head. ☎ 2841.

I'm Back

Velvet 50's tongue is back. WM big clean feet and cut meat. I'll put you in another world with pleasure. ☎ 3032.

Lick Your Hairy Butt

Husky, GWM, 50, seeks in-shape guys w/ hairy butts who like it licked, uncult, str8, married, ok. Ebay only. NS, ND, HIV-, UB2. ☎ 3038.

Corporal Punishment

Big daddy bear, 42, 6', 280#, gives good sound spankings to deserving bad boys over 18. This daddy knows how to give what you deserve on your bare bottom. Call now! ☎ 3035.

Wanted: Levi/Leather or "Bear" guys

Into JO in jeans, underwear? Unbuckle your belt, pull down your pants, show me your briefs or boxers. Attr. GWM 40's likes to JO w/ pants dropped. You can shoot your cum on (or in) my jeans/shorts if you want! Age/race unimportant. ☎ 3144.

Diaper Sex

GWM, 37, 6', 165#. Let me regress in your arms. Feed me from a bottle. Nurture the place in me that never received proper nourishment. ☎ 3145.

Naked Exhibitionist

Like to get naked in car, Mt. Tam, Ft. Funston, MUNI & JO? On deserted rds, get out of car naked and hard, really turns me on. I'm late thirties, balding, very hairy, uncult. You be 25-45, nice body, and good looking. Let's have some naked fun! ☎ 3030.

Hairy Men of Color

Rugged, muscular, hairy, GW leatherman seeks hairy-chested blacks, Mexicans, South Americans for intense pecwork (clawing, chewing, sucking, slapping, punching) hairy-chest to hairy-chest bearhugs. 69ing, JO, handcuffs, safe rough action. ☎ 3146.

Head Shaves and Hair Cuts

M, 35, seeking submissive man into head shaves and close clippers cuts must be willing to meet on con't basis, serious only need to reply. I'm bulging to meet. ☎ 3147.

Other

Passport to Europe

Which single female American citizen wants to work in Europe for mutually beneficial arrangement please write! ☎ 2832.

Can You Rollerblade?

Just got my first pair and need help learning how. I'm 33, blonde, 5'9", in good shape and attractive. Looking for someone under 30 and in good shape. Call and help me!! ☎ 2833.

The Hottest Guy in Town

Even the hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over. Play safe! Protect yourself & those you play with. Always wear a condom when having anal sex, & don't exchange bodily fluids. If you're HIV+, don't panic, get early treatment, talk to someone that can help, & still play safe. ☎ SAFE.

Daytime Workout Partner

Have weights in Castro, Noe, Mission? ☎ 2834.

Permissive Grandfather

SF GWM, 60's, slim, build, 5'8", 130#, balding, beard, seeks healthy, affectionate, grandson who likes to show off and display his jo skills, as well as gain improvement in practicing mutual basic oral techniques. ☎ 2835.

Wedding Banquet

Gay male couple 1 from US 1 not seeks lesbian couple with same problem or female interested in European passport. ☎ 3045.

Attractive, Middle Aged, Bearish GWCPL

Stable (18yrs): both dark, bearded, hairy, husky(220-235), & healthy(HIV-). Seeks sincere, honest, masc. men to develop an ongoing relationship both in & out of bed. Please call if you are reliable & ready to meet 2 great guys. "Game players" and men who can't follow through on their commitments need not respond. ☎ 3148.

Bar Talk

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Sex Buddy Sought

By gdkg, GWM, 5'9", 165#, very oral & safe. Looking for gdkg guy or bi WM for daytime fun! Lots of frenching, mutual oral, JO, teasing, licking & more (long term sex buddies?) ☎ 3020.

Young Asian Boy

Hot, handsome, in shape, masculine, inexperienced college student, 5'9", 140#, would like to meet a hot, handsome, masculine, hard body GWM under 35. ☎ 3022.

Pleasure

I'm 50's love big clean feet, big cut dicks and naked bodies. I have lot's of attention just for you. Hayward. ☎ 3025.

Horny Senior Unite!

Let's ignore these "young men only" ads and have a hot time w/ xx video, aroma, drinks and our mature, masculine bodies and hot rods. Sincere, available, easy-to-reach seniors only please. ☎ 3028.

Curve Service

Hot GWM, spunky, lean and well-defined, 5'11", 160#, 45, orally skilled, versatile; seeks enthusiastic playmate under 35. Looks not as important as hard, tight body and generous endowment. If yours is long w/ down ward curve, I'm gonna make you crazy. No gag! ☎ 3027.

Feel My Tongue Up Your Hot Butt

And my big bushy moustache in your crack. Me: hot 37, WM, 6', 160#, br/bl. You: hot and ready. ☎ 2125.

The Hottest Guy in Town

Even the hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over. Play safe! Protect yourself & those you play with. Always wear a condom when having anal sex, & don't exchange bodily fluids. If you're HIV+, don't panic, get early treatment, talk to someone that can help, & still play safe. ☎ SAFE.

Have It His Way

Surrender control to this handsome, Hawaiian/Latin hunk, 34 with smooth, chiseled, muscular body - love to pump your face and butt. Get tied up and used enthusiastically! He will make you cum helplessly! You: cute, trim/muscular. ☎ 3044.

241 or 2

My mouth/ass for 1 or 2 big dicks. I'm 35yo, tall, blond, clean, fun, energetic bottom. UB: Hung & active. Do it!! ☎ 3038.

Black Latino

Guys w/ stocky build & thick uncult cocks wanted by handsome blk man to orally service you by over 40yo. Big tits a +. ☎ 3124.

Here Is My Fantasy

I lay naked on my bed, you walk in (door unlock) with a hard on, you grease my man's hole & fuck my ass. Age, race unimportant. Afro-American men welcome. ☎ 3128.

Amateur Model

Seeking masculine, lean-body hairy or smooth guys 20 to 36 for pose for trim straight acting WM 39. Free pictures. ☎ 3138.

Pumped Meat?

Novice pumper, 31, great body, looking to meet other who have expanded their size to show me the possibilities I can achieve. ☎ 2129.

Throat Massage Needed

Your big dick to massage my deep throat and... Energetic 35yo btm with your pleasure in mind. Check it out! ☎ 3133.

Raunchy JO Buddy

Hry Masculine GWM, 44, 6', 190#. Hry bear good shape, looking for masculine buddies into hot raunchy, verbal, butt and crotch sniffing JO. E bay preferred. Hairy a +. Days and some eves. ☎ 3135.

Old Needs Bottom Son

Ass massage, life spanning. Me: Attractive, GWM, 45, 6'5", 280#, football players build. You: Attractive, GWM, 18-35, smooth to moderate body hair, nice buns. Spanking will stimulate nerve endings you never knew you had. You need it bad. ☎ 3139.

Rape Me Rough

GWM, 45, 6', 240#, wants to be violated by one or more. Into anything as long as it's forced by hot, hung, well built guys. Also castration fantasy? ☎ 3137.

Seeking Freaky Huge Nipples

Hot muscular 37 seeks a muscular guy w/ huge protruding nipples to date. Please be serious, sane, no games! ☎ 3138.

Older Attractive Slave

Hirsute, HIV-, late 40's, footstool slave craves sexy clean feet on my hairy hairy back & down my throat. Dog collar me, whip me & make me grovel. EBay men of substance character preferred. ☎ 2831.

Mid Peninsula GAM

38, 145#, 5'11" blk short hair, brn eyes, smooth skin seeks men under 40 to spank my tender buttocks. Not only to be violated but to be drilled and filled with your filling. Hairy, husky but not over weight only! ☎ 3031.

Big Dick Bottom

Athletic, masc. handsome, WM 28, HIV-, services hot hung, HIV-white men tops. Water sports and spandex short crazy. NS, ND, under 35. ☎ 3033.

Bouncing Spandex Basket

GWM, 26, 5'11", 150#, brn/hzl, hot spankable butt, shows off enormous, swollen basket tenting out of sleazy, shiny, super-tight pants, watch me tease and jiggle the stiff, swollen bulges in my trashy speedo/bike shorts! Mirrors, cameras, aroma, costumes. ☎ 3148.

Barfoot Buddy

Gdkg, Masc., bearded Ebay GWM seeks other men into reciprocal licking, kissing, smelling, caressing our clean, moist barefeet. I'm HIV-, NA, ND & I like all over body play & indulging ourselves by mutual barefoot action/fantasy. JO. I'm 5'9", 140#. Ebay area preferred. ☎ 3034.

THIS WEEK



Photo: Marty Sohl

Wanna Submit?

Send calendar listings to:

This Week
Bay Area Reporter
395 9th Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

Deadline is the Thursday before issue date.

Friday 19

Advances and Dances

Dance Through Time's new theatre dance piece set in 1945 SF. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 5/21. \$15-50. Cowell Theatre, Fort Mason. **821-8827**.

Antigone

The Sudden Space Theatre Co. presents Jean Anouilh's adaptation of Sophocles' tragedy. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 5/27, Sun. 5/7 at 2pm. \$10. Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa St. **621-7878**.

Brava at Climate

"The Road Home," two performance pieces in repertory: "Foster Field" by Elizabeth Summers, "Living in Spanish" by Greta Sanchez. Thru 6/4; call for times. \$10-18. Climate Theatre, 252 9th St. **626-8186**.

California Photographs

New work by Juliet Stelzmann. Thru 6/8. Figure 5, 3491 19th St. **841-8042**.

Country Nights

Women's Country Western dancing. No smoke, alcohol or scents. \$7-10. Class 7pm, dance 8:30pm. Montclair Women's Club, 1650 Mountain Blvd., Oakland. **(510) 428-2144**.

Thursday

San Francisco posters making the scene at **Pop T.A.R.T.** at the Ten 15 Club.



Photo: Dore Bowen

Friday

Jordan Tircuit and Serena Orloff in Berkeley Ballet Theatre's **The Woodland Prince** at Julia Morgan Theater.

Fastforward

Theater by and about young people living with HIV, by Positive Spirit. Fri. & Sat. thru 5/27. \$8. The Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. **881-5079**.

Heading South

Brian Thorntson's darkly comic voyage into the gay '90s. Wed.-Sat. thru 6/10 at 7:30pm. \$10. 450 Geary Studio Theater. **873-1172**.

I Do! I Do!

Two-character musical comedy follows fifty years of marriage. Fri. at 8pm, Sat. at 6pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 5/21. \$12. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. **881-8872**.

Intimo

"7 portraits of the famous, the infamous, the known and unknown" by Michael Satori-Rodriguez. Thru 5/31. The pour house cafe, 1136 Valencia. **841-7887**.

The Little Prince

The Dominican College Players performs the Saint Exupéry play in English. \$7. 7:30pm. Alliance Française, 1345 Bush. **775-7755**.

Marat/Sade

Peter Weiss' theatrical spectacle, directed by Matt Ross. Fri-Sun. at 8pm thru 5/27. \$15. Shelton Theatre, 533 Sutter. **433-7875**.

Men

Artwork by David Maxim uses male imagery, reception tonight, 6pm. Wed.-Sat. 12-5pm thru 6/26. Space 743, 743 Harrison. **777-8080**.

The Nature Pictures

Dancers' Group/ Footwork presents Rajendra Serber's multimedia theaterwork with dance, video and sports. \$10. Thurs.-Sat. thru 5/27. 3221 22nd St. **824-5044**.

Pinter Plays

Three one-acts: *Monologue*, *Victoria Station*, *The Collection*. Thurs.-Fri. at 8pm, Sat. at 2:30pm thru 6/10. Bannam Place Theatre, 50 Bannam Place. **868-0428**.

Planet Drag

Supermodel Jade in a new solo performance project. 8:30pm. Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts, 1519 Mission St. **554-0402**.

Sandy Dennis at the Maisonettes

Joe Besecker's black comedy. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 6/11, two

Sun. matinees at 3pm. \$10-12. SOMAR Theatre, 934 Brannan. **828-6715**.

The Stepford Wives

The Sick and Twisted Players' interpretation, extended. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 5/27. \$12-15. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness Ave. **881-8872**.

Water-Woman-Time

"And other memories," dance works by June Watanabe, Rebecca Fuller, Daniel Nagrin, Helen Dannenberg. Thru Sunday. \$15. 9pm. Theater Artaud, 450 Florida. **821-7787**.

You Gotta Give 'Em Hope

"Harvey Milk in His Own Words," one-man show by actor-writer James Patrick Kennedy, directed by Danny Scheie. Wed.-Sun. thru 6/4. \$12. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. **881-7883**.

Saturday 20

Beyond Bagdad

An "Alice in Lesbo Land" musical comedy romp. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm. Sun. at 7pm thru 6/10. \$12-18. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. **881-5079**.

Club Confidential

Features Phoebe Legere, "Shame, Depravity and Lesbianism in the Twilight of a Dying Civilization." \$10. 9pm door, 11:30pm show. Embassy Lounge, 600 Polk. **252-8834**.

Community Forum

SF Coalition to Oppose JROTC holds a forum, "Military Programs: Do They Belong in Our Schools?" Speakers include Supervisor Ammannio. 1-3pm. Rm 215, War Memorial Bldg., 401 Van Ness. **474-3002**.

Dance for Women

Featuring DJ Lady Ace, produced by Bay Area Career Women. \$10 advance, \$15 door. 8:30pm-1am. Jelly's, Pier 50. **495-5383**.

Freewheelers

The Freewheelers Car Club cruise to the Filoli Estate in Woodside (the *Dynasty* mansion), followed by a cookout. \$15. Call for info. **768-8727**.

Futura

Latino dance club. \$10. 10pm-3am. Townsend, 177 Townsend. **885-8715**.

Gay Comedy Night

Michael T. Karen Ripley, Tom Ammannio. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. **881-7883**.

Pandora's Box

A Santa Rosa Pre-Gay Pride dance party benefitting AIDS organizations. \$7. Call for location. **1-800-508-3022**.

Team San Francisco

General membership mtg. News from Amsterdam and Gay Games IV, Gay Day Parade contingent. 3pm. Eureka Valley Comm. Cntr., 100 Collingwood. **824-8118**.

Women Only Prom

A dance for fat women and their women friends, formal attire optional, no scents. \$8-12. 8pm-Midnight. Redwood Childcare Center, 3245 Sheffield Ave., Oakland. **(510) 858-3300**.

The Woodland Prince

Berkeley Ballet Theatre presents choreographer Christopher Dolder's new ballet set to music by 18th Century composer Piter Hellendaal. Sat. at 2 & 8 7pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 5/21. \$12. Julia Morgan Theater, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. **(510) 843-4889**.

Sunday 21

AIDS Candlelight Memorial

And Mobilization, 12th annual event. Begins 8pm, Castro & Market, proceeds to City Hall. **883-4878**.



Bay to Breakers

84th running of the 12-km trek. Begins 8am. **808-6000** ext.2222.

Body Alchemy

Photographer Loren Cameron documents the transsexual community, including nude self-portraits. Exhibit open on Sundays, 1-5pm thru 6/1. 848 Community Art Space, 848 Divisadero. **765-7858**.

GAWK

Gay Artists and Writers Collective weekly meetings Sun., 2-30pm. Info: Jon Sugar at **731-2424**.

Norway Day Festival

Music, food, arts & crafts. \$5. 10am-6pm. Fort Mason, Herbst Pavilion. **(510) 878-4708**.

One Night in Heaven

Pleasuredome presents Carol Channing and "Hello, Dolly!" performers in a benefit for Under One Roof. \$7. Doors open 8pm. 177 Townsend. **885-5258**.

Queer Prom '95

GAPA Community HIV Project presents the prom of your dreams. \$12-25. 7pm-Midnight. Big Heart City, 836 Mission St. **575-8838**.

Rhapsody in Bloom

Self-guided tour of 10 prize gardens in SF, benefits Stop AIDS Project. \$30. Tickets available at 214 Eureka, 3965 Washington. 10am-5pm. **821-7177** x600.

Jane Sipe

An originator of feminist and gay jewelry displays sculpture and jewelry. 2:30-4pm. Crystal Way, 2335 Market. **881-9511**.

Solano AIDS Walk

Benefits Solano Center for AIDS

Services. Benicia State Park. **707-556-1100**.

W.H.O.O.T.V.

"We'll Hold Our Own Thank You," the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence's benefit for the Women & Cancer Walk. 12-6pm. The Cafe, Market at Castro. **487-8224**.

Monday 22

Martin Colucci

Black and white photography by Colucci thru 6/11 at the Castro Station, 456 B Castro St.

4x4

44 self-portraits, each measuring 4" x 4", by photographer Lalo Segura. Thru May. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes. **884-7854**.

Gay Comedy Open Mike

M.C. Danny Williams. Aspiring queer comics sign up by phone. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. **881-7883**.

Mapplethorpe Suite

Spanish artist Francesc Genoves's painting and collage on metal, inspired by Mapplethorpe's autobiography. Mon.-Sat. 10am-6pm thru 5/25. Eleonore Austerer Gallery, 540 Sutter. **888-2244**.

MFA Art Exhibition

Student culminating projects exhibition, artists include Ella Delaney, Guy Kitchen, others. Mon.-Sat. 12-4pm thru 5/27. Art Dept. Gallery, SFSU, 1600 Holloway Ave. **338-2753**.

Milk Club Fundraiser

Harvey Milk Lesbian/ Gay/

Bisexual Democratic Club's annual fundraiser features speaker Assemblymember Sheila Kuehl. \$25-50. 7-9pm. Herbst Theater Green Room, 401 Van Ness. **847-5421**.

On the Waterfront

Works from the Hunters Point Artists Community. Mon.-Fri. 9am-5pm thru 6/15. Transamerica Pyramid Lobby, 600 Montgomery. **883-4088**.

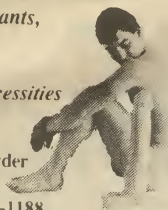
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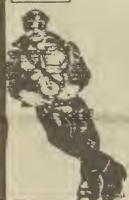
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BAY AREA REPORTER BAZAAR

MR. MARCUS



Photo: Mr. Marcus

Ms. SF Leather "B.J." kibitzes with Empress Donna and Emperor Michael after the weather rained out her fundraiser at the Eagle last Friday. It will be re-scheduled.

Next Stop: Chicago!

All is in readiness. In just 10 days, a new International Mr. Leather will be chosen in Chicago, and San Jose's Jeff Tucker will end his productive and outstanding year with the title.

One of the features of the big weekend is the "Hometown Party," and this year the hometown party spotlights the City of San Jose. Silicon Valley, prunes and other Southbay-identified artifacts will be in evidence (or at least commented on) when San Jose shines at the Vortex Nightclub during the weekend. A portion of the proceedings will be devoted to the SF Gay Men's Chorus, who'll be on hand to do things up in their usual excellent fashion. IML widow Steve Crane sings in the GMC, so naturally getting most of the group there has proved less problematic than you'd think.

Over 2,000 people of the leather persuasion will converge in the Windy City for a hedonistic weekend. In addition, the

Square Dancers of America will share the "other tower" at the Hyatt Regency host hotel on E. Wacker Drive; the Chicago Bears (not the football team) will host a major weekend event as well and Chicago Hellfire will stage one of their infamous "play parties."

The judges are in place and ready to interview almost 50 (at my deadline) aspirants to the title. The judging sessions take place from 0830 to 1600 on Saturday and from 0830 to 1400 on Sunday, the results of which will produce 20 semi-finalists; the IML Den Daddy in charge of all the contestants, Walter Klingler, will have his usual retinue of helpers including SF's Andy Rose as the candidates go through a fast-paced schedule beginning with their check-in on Friday afternoon at 1600.

Audrey Joseph will be a major player in the production of the contest and show; a mammoth leather market will be in operation at the hotel throughout the weekend and many San Francisco leather-oriented businesses will have booths among vendors from all over the country.

In case I didn't tell you, porn actor Jeff Stryker will be the emcee, at least for some parts of the show. The souvenir program went to the printer yesterday, Wednesday, May 17th.

At the grassroots level (at my deadline) all of the bar, city and regional leather contests have been completed and the contestants are pumping up, studying and getting ready for the competition aspect of their title year(s).

A big delegation from San Francisco, the Bay Area, and from all over California will be present in Chicago. At my deadline, the infamous "San Francisco in Chicago" party had not yet materialized, but I suspect one is in the offing as it is the most popular aspect of Chicago's annual celebration.

As for VIP package avail-

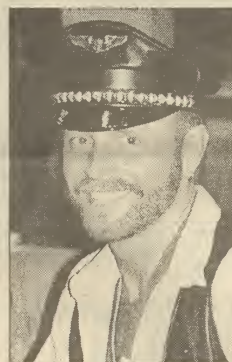


Photo: Mr. Marcus

Mr. Upstate New York, Randy Calkins, is sponsored by Stars M/C and competes for the IML title in just 10 more days. He's a real crowd pleaser!

ability and reserved seats, the entire thing is practically sold out, but if your making last-minute plans you could try calling 1-800-545-6753 for reservations. Reservations for the host hotel can be made by calling 1-800-233-1234; be sure to mention IML for a \$90 per night rate. See you there?

While all this is in progress, one shouldn't forget the forthcoming International Mr. Drummer competition here in San Francisco during Leather Pride Week (Sept. 17 to 24). Kicking off with the Leather Pride Walk from the Castro to the SF-Eagle on Sunday, Sept. 17, the week will be chock full of events almost every night.

Know now that the Australian contingent and auction will not take place this year and it is doubtful, too, that there will be an Australian contestant.

To date, the schedule so far includes the Mr. Drummer Basket Auction at the Eagle on Wed., Sept. 20; the Fetish & Fantasy Party on Thursday,

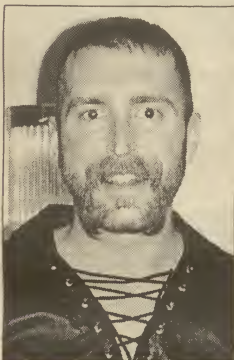


Photo: Mr. Marcus

Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather '95 Joe Morris represents the nation's capitol at IML in Chicago. Joe lives in D.C. and has been traveling near and far since he won his title last January.

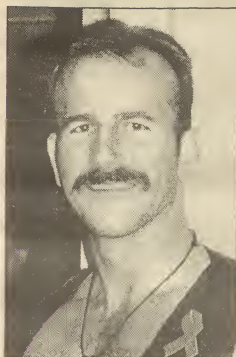


Photo: Mr. Marcus

Larry Everett, Mr. Oklahoma State Leather, has been active since winning his title several months ago and will shine strong for his state in Chicago.

scription to *Drummer* and a one-time personal ad in *Tough Customers* magazine. Tickets for the contest only are \$25. The host hotel is the Holiday Inn Civic Center (8th & Market) and includes a \$95 price for single/double occupancy when you mention the Mr. Drummer Contest. Out of towners can call 1-800-HOLIDAY.

Of course, the San Francisco Leather Pride Week ends with the Folsom St. Fair on Sunday, Sept. 24th, so make your plans now! And while you're at it, consider volunteering in all areas of Leather Pride Week.

Around ye olde campus last week, it was rather laid back, what with lousy weather and the lull before the storm. The weather was so bad, Ms. SF Leather "B.J." had to cancel her Blackmail Photo Auction travel fund benefit at the Eagle Friday night; but it has been re-scheduled, so watch this space for the new date.

On Sunday, the Constantines MC beerbust at the Eagle was caught in a downpour of rain. Doug Stromberg and others were selling raffle tickets to benefit Inter-Club Fund and their monumental grants program. And all this time I thought the ICF was comfortable with their self-imposed treasury limit!!

Down South, the Gauntlet II in Los Angeles celebrated its 12th anniversary on Tuesday. A few of our guys were there for the occasion. Aside from that, we're all waiting for the weather to improve. Here it is May and we're still having chilly weather and rain! Unbelievable!



Photo: Mr. Marcus

"Squeaky" LeGault is Mr. Spike New York. He will work the ramp at IML in Chicago representing that fabled bar.

Dish runs away with the spoon

Most shocking news discussed all last week was that the board of directors of our parade in June allowed it to be co-sponsored by the homophobic radio station KMEL! And you people elected this board of directors? Homophobic, racist DJs at our celebration? Jeez. Do you suppose they'll allow a Leather Pride Float in the parade manned by these sponsors?

And speaking of the SF Alphabet Soup Parade, you might as well know that there is a movement afoot to have the lead contingent in our annual Alphabet Soup Parade alternate annually between Men on Bikes and Dykes on Bikes. I can hear the hysteria already!

I was somewhat surprised that the nervous nellys at Frameline have okayed the showing of leather documentary *MenManiacs* in this year's International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. The 86-minute documentary, made by Hamburg's Jochen Hich, will be shown on Sunday, June 11 at 1700 along with Walter Kehr's *Miguel*, a film about the tattoo and piercing cultures in Los Angeles. ▼

Eventures in Leather

Unless otherwise indicated, all phone numbers listed below are in the 415 area code.

Thursday, May 18

Mr. October on the 1996 Bare Chest Calendar will be selected at 2200 tonight at the SF-Eagle. After this one, only two spaces remain. Win \$100, fame, fortune and help the AIDS Emergency Fund.

Friday, May 19

Knights of Malta MC beer bust at the Eagle from 2000 to 2300 for \$6; hot dogs (\$2) go on sale at 2130, with a percentage going to the club's AIDS charities program.

Blow Buddies and the AIDS Health Project offer free anonymous HIV testing, plus counseling and education, from 2200 to 0030 at 933 Harrison (upstairs). Open to everyone.

Saturday, May 20

Cal Eagles' "overnighter" to Sacramento leaves from in front of Daddy's Bar at 10 a.m. and returns Sunday at noon. The run fee is \$50, which includes Saturday night dinner. Applications available at the SF-Eagle now, or call their hotline (267-0560).

The Bears of SF beer bust at the Lone Star (1500-1900, \$6) benefits the Healing Alternatives Foundation. They also want your serviceable 501s to benefit the charity. Be there or "Frisch" may create an unflattering cartoon of you!

"Breaking Thru the Pain Barrier" is the subject for today's session at The Ring, 1300-1500, by "Hal," who's been at it since he was 13! Don't miss this one! Call 522-9697 to reserve a space!

12th Annual Long Beach Lesbian & Gay Pride Parade and Festival today and tomorrow, with pop, rhythm and blues, and C/W entertainment at the

Shoreline Aquatic Park. Featuring the Del Rubio Triplets and Floyd's (bar) Cloggers and booths galore. Tickets are \$10, and the parade (free) is on Sunday at 1100, starting at Ocean and Cherry sts. The theme is "From Silence to Celebration." As it should be, both men and women will lead their parade. How democratic! For more info call (310) 987-9191.

Sunday, May 21

SMMILE (producers of the Folsom St. Fair and Up Your Alley) hosts a beer bust at Hole in the Wall from 1500 to 1900 for \$6. Door prizes will be awarded, and SMMILE board members will be on hand to sign up volunteers for the biggest leather event in the world taking place on Sunday, Sept. 24. Get involved!

Weekend, May 26-29

Memorial Day Weekend means the 17th edition of International Mr. Leather in Chicago. The host, Hyatt Hotel, will also house the Square Dancers of America, so the place will be tres gay! See you there?

Sunday, May 28

Golden Gate Guards MC hosts the beer bust at the Eagle this afternoon, \$8, 1500-1800. With stained-glass objets d'art by Jim Languet and an Erte print. With this group, you can be assured the food will be top drawer!

Weekend, June 2-4

Rodeo time! The Bay Area Chapter of the Golden State Gay Rodeo Association hosts the weekend extravaganza head-quartered at the Cathedral Hill Hotel and cowpoke stuff at the Cow Palace. Only \$40 for all events all weekend. Call 985-5200; they accept Visa and Mastercard. ▼



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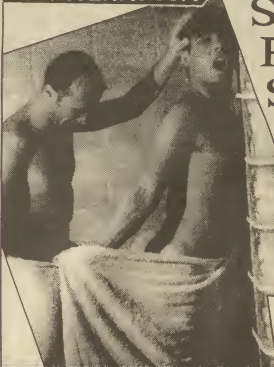
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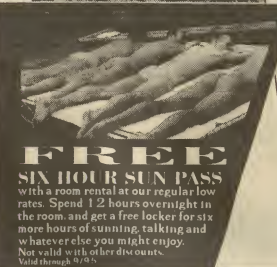
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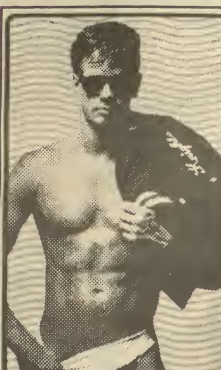
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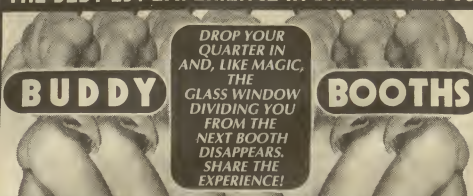
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Tedious Trysting

by Rod Cazzo

Whenever I review porn tapes, the first thing I do is figure out who's who in the film. After listing all the actors in *Captain Stud and His Seamen*, I realized that I'd written: Myles

West has blond hair; Daryl Brock has brown hair; Tony Brandon has long brown hair; and Devyn Foster has long black hair. Aside from their various hair styles, lengths and colors, the cast members are virtually indistinguishable. What's worse

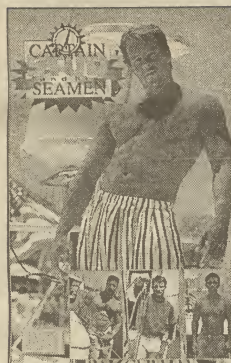
is that they're also really boring.

The setting for this flick is also boring. I can just see the film's producers pulling out a yellowed, ratty index card on which is written "Men fuck on ship" and thinking, "Gee, we haven't used this idea in a while." Well, there's a good reason why: it's tired.

Captain starts with Donny Russo walking along a dock to his ship. We like Mr. Russo, but he's a bit overexposed these days - and in this film in particular. He seems to be getting fucked or sucked in every scene, and it's all done so routinely that it makes us wonder if he hasn't learned how to cast spells over his paramours that guarantee maximum plugging from playmates with zero reciprocation. We think Donny needs to learn a few new tricks.

Endless love

Myles West, the star of the next scene, seems to be having such a good time by himself (he rubs his well-developed muscles endlessly) that he makes the idea of sex with others seem positive-



ly antiquated. That certainly isn't what porn is about, is it?

In the following scene, Devyn Foster (the one with the longest hair in the movie) polishes the boat's wheel, Donny's boots, Donny's cock and Donny's asshole. If it sounds like housecleaning, then you already know how exciting the scene really is. When Devyn shoots his load all over Donny's

boots at the end, he neatly wipes them clean, with a cloth, of course. His mouth on that boot *might* have been slightly erotic, but that would have been out of place in this film.

The two ensuing scenes are nothing to write home about, either. Yawn and double yawn.

Later in the film, when the boat is actually at sea, Donny's friends gather for a party. This get-together has all the makings of a climactic finale, but, alas, the scene goes nowhere.

Some porn films get you hot and bothered; others make you want to swear off sex forever. This film simply presents sex as a truly tedious business. Even Donny must have figured that out: in one scene he munches a banana while getting sucked off. ▼

Captain Stud and His Seamen stars Myles West, Donny Russo, Daryl Brock, Tanner Reeves, Brandon West, Wolf, Tim Barnett, Tony Brandon, Rick Donovan and Devyn Foster.

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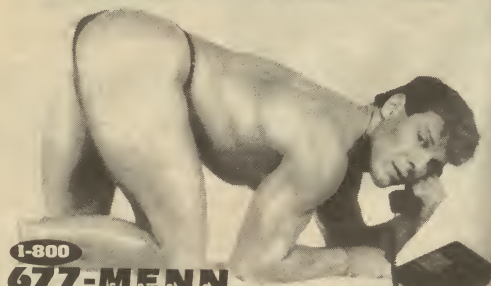
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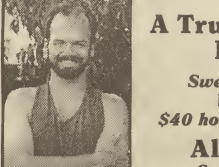
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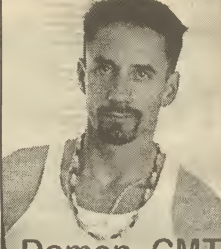
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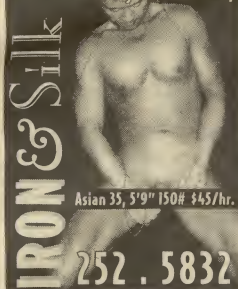
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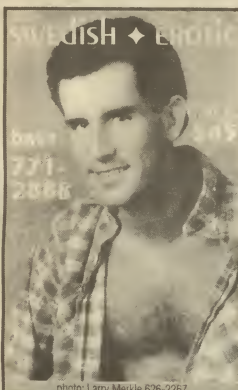
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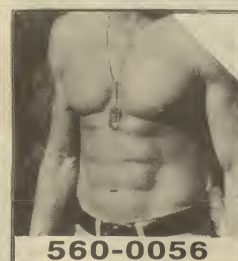
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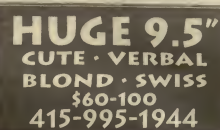
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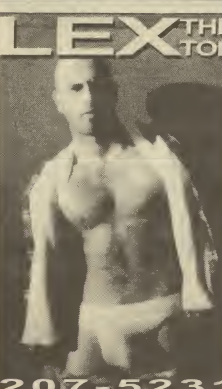
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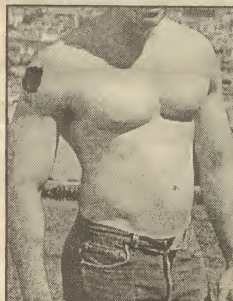
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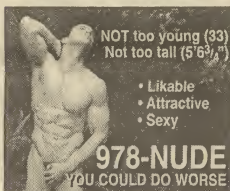
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**Best Lay - Low Pay
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NOT too young (33)
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- Sexy

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BIG MAN ON CAMPUS

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Classic good looks.
The quiet capable type.
Well-versed, energetic,
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and a bountiful basket
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6'2" Masculine Hairy Blond
Open 24 Hrs. 861-5827

Handsome, Muscular Italian

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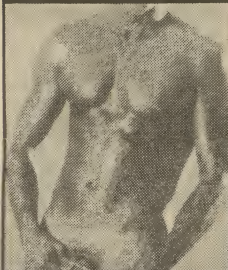
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Body Builder, 230 Lbs.
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From Italy
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► SUPER HUNG ◄
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Safe Scenes arranged.

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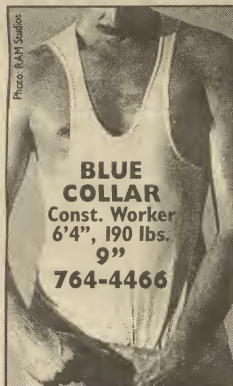
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DEEP WELLS
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Sure to produce a GUSHER!
8 1/2" Thick.
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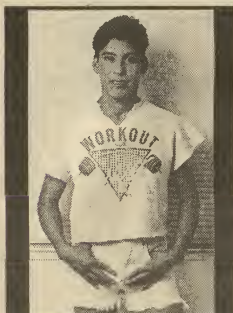
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Dark Blond, Blue 5'10", 175#
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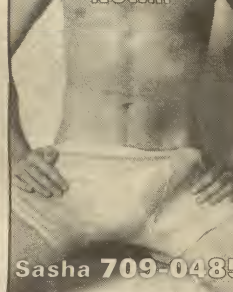


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In A Peak Experience.

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Round, Hairy, Butt

---Page: 303-1235


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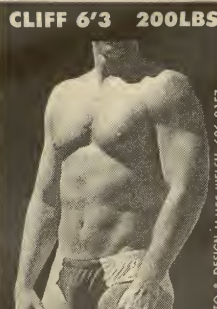
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8x6

Chris, 255 lbs, 6'1"
Porn Star, Pro BB
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CLIFF 6'3 200LBS

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Asian**

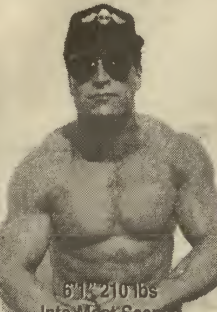
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Jason

**241
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Muscular 34 6'4" 190#
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Woof!

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